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THE NEW
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.
VOL. II.

THE NEW
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.

BY
THE MINISTERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PARISHES, UNDER THE
SUPERINTENDENCE OF A COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY
FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE SONS AND
DAUGHTERS OF THE CLERGY.

VOL. II.

LINLITHGOW—HADDINGTON—BERWICK.

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS,
EDINBURGH AND LONDON.

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LINLITHGOW.

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PARISH OF QUEENSFERRY.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. THOMAS DIMMA, A. M., MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries.—THIS parish, which comprehends the royal burgh, is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth, and everywhere else by the parish of Dalmeny. In the town, but beyond the royalty, there are 422 inhabitants, and at New-Halls 90, by the census 1841.

Climate, &c.—In winter the thermometer ranges from 46° to 15°. In November 1830 it was 32° at the lowest, and in the following January at 23°. The barometer is not subject to more than the usual variations.

The Frith opposite the town is about a mile and a half in breadth. The tide rises 18 feet at the harbour mouth. The water is shallow on the southern shore; but the depth is greatest on the Fife side, where in the fair-way between the island Inch Garvie, and the Battery Point, the bottom has been found with a line of 60 fathoms. At certain seasons, after floods occasioned by melting snow or falls of rain, the saltness of the water is much diminished by the volume of fresh water carried down by the Forth and its tributary streams.

The town is supplied with water collected in an artificial reservoir, very liberally formed, at the expense of the Earl of Rosebery, in the year 1819. This has proved an unspeakable advantage to the town. During the great drought of last summer, when the reservoir was nearly emptied, the burgh laid out upwards of L. 100 in heightening the embankment, and thereby greatly increasing the supply of water. At the original formation of the reservoir, the town expended L. 200.

The houses in the centre of the town are founded on sea sand, which extends to the foot of the rising ground or *brae*, at the bottom of which the town is built. In the west and east, a bed of sandstone appears, which dips to the north with a considerable

angle of depression. In digging the foundation of houses or graves in the churchyard, sea-shells are found, affording evidence that the whole site of the town has been reclaimed from the sea.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is no complete account of the parish deserving of particular notice, though there is an anonymous publication, bearing date 1726, arising out of some disputes between the magistrates and the clergyman of the time, which contains various particulars of interest connected with the erection of the church, provision for the minister, &c. Some documents also, in the hands of the representative of the ancient family of Stewart of Craigiehall, show, in 1689, the state of the water passage, as divided into thirty-two shares, among twelve shareholders. There is likewise a petition, printed in 1718, and presented to the Convention of Royal Burghs, setting forth the great distress of the town, on account of the failure of trade, pressure of taxation, removal of sailors to New-Halls, and the quartering of soldiers passing to the north, and in returning from it.

At a very early period, the spot where the town is built was much frequented, as the most convenient place for crossing the narrow strait which separates the county of West Lothian from Fife. At a remote era, it was denominated *Freti Transitus*, as the Romans, about the year A. D. 83, penetrated as far as the marshes, lakes, and forests in the neighbourhood of Lochleven. Various discoveries made of bones, funeral urns, &c. in the town and immediate neighbourhood, point it out as the scene of fierce strife between the original inhabitants and its invaders; and as it lay near the course of the Roman wall, built by Antoninus, A. D. 140, this may well account for the importance this place early acquired.

On the conquest of England by the Normans, A. D. 1066, various fugitives escaped to Scotland, and among these Edgar Atheling, heir of the Confessor's race, with his sister, Margaret, a most beautiful and accomplished maiden. Malcolm III., surnamed Cean Mohr, married this princess in 1067. To the westward of the town a spot favourable for embarkation was called Port Edgar,* and some rocks, from whence the Queen was accustomed to pass to the opposite shores of Fife, in the low Latin of

* George IV. embarked at Port Edgar on the 15th August 1822, on his return to England. He was accompanied from Hopetoun House by General the Earl of Hopetoun. At the same pier, on the 1st October 1828, the remains of the gallant and distinguished earl were landed from His Majesty's Sloop of War, Brisk, from France, amidst the regrets of the whole nation.

the time, *Passagium Reginae*, and in the vulgar tongue, the Ferry, or the Queen's-Ferry, by which name it was then known. There was formerly a house on the beach, near some shelving rocks, called the Binks, which, it is understood, was built for the Queen's accommodation while waiting the arrival of her boat from the opposite shore, on her way to Dunfermline, the royal residence. So much attached to this princess were the inhabitants, that her foot-mark was cut out in the solid rock; and some of the inhabitants speak of it as being in existence in the recollection of the ancient inhabitants.

In a charter of Malcolm IV. the town was called *Portus Reginae*, who granted a free passage to the monks of Scone, *ad Portum Reginae*. Pope Gregory, in 1234, confirmed to the abbot of Dunfermline, *dimidium passagiae sanctae Margaritae Reginae*. This was also granted to the abbey of Dunfermline, by Robert I., regranted by Robert III., and confirmed by James II. in 1450. At the Reformation this right was disposed of by the abbot, in sixteen shares; but there is evidence on record that he actually sold eighteen-sixteenths.

Though a port so early as Malcolm IV., it was not a royal burgh in 1556, when a tax was levied on royal burghs, but it procured a charter of erection into a free royal burgh in 1636. Its erection was much opposed by Linlithgow, which was appeased by some degrading concessions. It appears to have sent a representative to Parliament in 1639. Under the Union it has the privilege of choosing a representative to Parliament, along with Stirling, Inverkeithing, Culross, and Dunfermline. The town-council consists of twenty-one, of whom two-thirds were formerly merchant sailors, and three were deacons of crafts. The number of persons residing within the royalty, whose rents in property or tenantry amount to L. 10, are 20; and in the extended royalty there are 10 persons resident rated at the same amount.

The parish was an erection from Dalmeny, in the year 1636, ratified by Act of Parliament 1641, at which time, the place seems to have acquired considerable importance, in consequence of its commercial intercourse with Holland. At this time it possessed nearly twenty great ships, with several coasting vessels of a smaller size. A church was built in 1633, on the ruins of a very ancient chapel. Some tombstones bear the date of 1685, and one, apparently of a much earlier period. The magistrates and town-council are patrons of the church.

The length of the town does not extend to one quarter of a mile, and its breadth to a few hundred yards. It forms one street, bounded by one row of houses on the north, and on the south several closes, as they are called, extend backwards. The shore is flat and sandy, except on the east and west, where ledges of rocks extend a considerable way into the sea. On the western ridge the harbour is formed. The rude erection of an early time has been replaced by a very substantial pier and harbour, built under the directions of Mr Stevenson, civil engineer.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers extend from 1635 to the present time. The first entry in the record of baptisms is 1635, and in that of marriages, 1635. They are not voluminous, but have been regularly kept, though the register of baptisms appears, with a few exceptions, since the commencement of the secession, to contain only the names of those connected with the Established Church.*

* *Extracts from the Session Records of Queensferry, by Elias Johnston, schoolmaster.* —“ At Queinsferrie, August 13, 1635.—The qlk day Mr David Lindsay, seconnd bischope of Edinburt, came yairfra to the above namit toun of Queinsferrie, for the consecration of yr new erectit church yr, and for admitting of Mr Robert Gibbisone, minister yrto, being the first man yt was presentit to yt place. And after the said Mr David his entrie in the toun, he went by the (sleip) way towardis the doore of the kirk, qlk was then lockit, gre mett him, Rot Daulling and Rot Hill than present baillies, accompaniet wt the haill honnest men of the toun. The said Mr David demanding the baillies and the rest of the companie yair, to what end they had build that hous, wha replyit onlie to the glorie of God, and for his worships, and in tockin yrof they did render him. This being dune, and doore maid oppine, the said bischope did ascend the pulpit, and yairafter prayer conceivit and salme sung, he maid chois of his text furth of . . . Qlk endit . . . to the consecration of the church, and nixt to the admissioun of the said Mr Robert. Sermon being endit, two childrene war baptizit, ye on to Galbin Sympsone, namit Edward, and uthr to Andro Hutton, namit George. After this the said bischope dischendit to ane seat before the pulpit, qr he did demand furth of the bookis of ord (ination) such and such questionis as concernit the admissioun of the said Mr Rot., to yt divyne calling and replyis war maid be the said Mr Rot yrto. Qlk finischit he resavit imposition of hands, and last of all the sacrament of the Lord's supper was celebrat. Qlk endit and a salme sung, the companie, than yr convened for the for-said wark, war dismissit.”

“ At Queinsferrie, August 23, 1635.—The quhilk day cōveinit Mr Robert Gibbisone, minister at South Queinsferrie, accompaniet with the wholl honnest men of the said burij, and than did nominat and choizit the personis following to be deaconis and eldars wthn the said paroch, viz. &c. &c. Upon the same day it was appoyntit be uniforme cōsent of the sessione that the chief place wthin the church should be applyit for the baillies and counsellors. Also it was appoyntit that thair should be no seats nor dasks within the kirk, bot all pewis.”

“ September 6, 1635.—The qlk day sessione being mett, it was ordaint that James Dalling, eldar, should keip the kirk box, and Robert Dalling, wth David Wilsone, should keip the keyis for the first qrter. Upon the same day it was ordaint that whatsoever personis war buikit for the performance of matrimonie, should

wth sufficient caūners that they should performe and accomplishe marriag wthin fourtie dayes, under the paine of fourty poundis. Upon the same day it was ordanit that quhasoever should defyle the marriag bed before marriag should pay six poundis Scottissh mōey, and that to be cōsignit befor thair marriag. It was also ordainit that qtsomever personis should buik thaimselfis to perform the band of matri-

Eminent Men.—It is not known that any individuals of much note have been connected with this parish. Mr Kid, who was minister from 1710 to 1743, was much distinguished as an eminent divine, and one of the twelve brethren who, in 1721, united in a representation to the Assembly respecting the act passed in condemnation of the Marrow of Modern Divinity. The celebrity of this individual at the time of the communion attracted crowds from the most distant parts of the country. By the session record it appears that 600 communicants were sometimes assembled, and

monie, sall pay to the reidar threttein shillingis four penneis. It was also ordanit that thes personis sall give to the beddell the day of thair marriag 4s. It was also ordanit that the personis qusomevar that ar to be merriet sall cōsigne the sowme of 20 mēk Scottis mōy in cace that thair exceid ten shillings for the man, and aucht for the woman, and if so be the act be transgrest the mōey sall cum to ōr kirk-box. It was also ordanit that at baptisme the father of the chyld sall give to the reidar aucht shillings and to the beddell four shillings. It was also ordanit qusomever persone sall depart this lyf above ten yeires sall pay to the beddell ten shillings, and under ten yeires six shillings aucht penneis, and that for the making of the graves. It was also ordanit that everi fornicator, especially the man, sall pay to our box for his trespas the sowm of six pounds, and the woman four poūds, and the relaps ever to be redowblit *toties quoties*. It was also ordanit that qtsomever personis sall break the Sabbath day by taking other great or small boot to pass this ferrie, from the rysing of the sune to the twelf hour of the day, thes personis sall be fynit for the first fault in twelf shillings Scotts the man, and if they sall fall in the sam fault againe, they sall stand at our kirk-door in sack-cloth, and mak ane cōfessione of thair fault before the cōgregane. It was also ordanit that if the master of the bootis sall give thair cōsent to the botsman, they sall pay fyve pounds *toties quoties*. It was also ordanit that qtsomever browstar sall sell drink upon the Sabbath day in tym of divyne service, sall be fynit in fourtie shillings. It was also ordanit qtsumever browster salbe found earing b from twelf hour upon sall be fynit in fourtie shillings Scottis. It was also ordanit that qtsumever personis salbe found out of our kirk in tyme of divyne service, sall be fynit in aucht shillingis. It was also ordanit that qt sumever persone servant that salbe found bearing bur-n upon the Sabbath day within the tymes limitit, if they sall nott be able to pay fourtie shillings, yitt sall mak satisfacione at the kirk-door, according to the sessionis injunctiōne."

"September 13, 1635.—The qlk day sessione being mett, Bessie Howisone being callit and compeirit, acknowledgit himself to be wth chyld to David Crichtone, it was ordanit that both pties should be warnit heir against this day aucht dayis. Upon the sam day it was ordanit that Mr James Levingstone should be reidar in this our kirk, so that he and our session can aggrie under sufficient that he sall substit (ute) in his place ane cōpleit deputy heir to serve upon the Sabbath day befoir noone."

(Date omitted,) probably 20th September 1635.—"The qlk day sessione being mett, callit and compeirit Bessie Howisone, cōfessit she was wth chyld to David Crichtone—the said David callit and cōpeirit, cōfessit kopelane wth the said Bessie. Thairfoir, it was ordanit that the man sould pay six poundis, and the woman four poundis, and to enter to the publick place of repentance, and to that effect Thomas Barron is become caune for the man, and William Thompsone for the woman."

"November 8, 1635 —The qlk day cōvenit, Mr Robert Gibbisone, minister at South Queinsferrie, being accompaniet wth the deaconis, eldars, and sessionaris than present,—after due deliberatne and advyse, all of them than present, out of ane motive and free will, wthout any cōstranit or cōpulsione, did cōdiscend all the schipis boxes should be joynit in wth thair kirk-box, to remaine thair for intertaining thair poore affaires belonging to the kirk, and uther pious uss; and this to be dune in all tyme eming. Protesting that out of gud cōscience thay war movit thairto, and in toking thairof, and for gud exmple, James Hill, skippar, gave in 19 rex dollers and 12s., and Arch Logy, skippar, gave in 5 rex dollers to the kirk-box."

that twenty-two pints of claret and eighteen great loaves were used.

Antiquities.—The burgh has no ancient buildings; but in the west end of the town the Carmelite church, dedicated to the Virgin, is deserving of notice. It was built and endowed by the very ancient family of Dundas of Dundas, about the year 1330. Its extent and revenues are now unknown. It continues to this time the burial-place of the family, whose remains are deposited in a vault under the place where stood the high altar, and now in a new tomb, formed by the present proprietor. The town suffered from time to time, from the hostile commotions that prevailed in the country. It was injured by the cannon of some ships in the time of the Commonwealth, as there are balls in the possession of some families, which tradition mentions as having been picked up after the cannonade had ceased. In the year 1745 the town was threatened to be plundered by the Highlanders on their march to Edinburgh, but the *Happy Janet*, a ship of war lying off the town, prevented their designs being carried into effect.

There are some good houses in the town, on what is called the *Vaults*. The church is a plain building, but in the year 1821 was fitted up with very great neatness and taste, at the expense of upwards of L.500. It has an excellent bell, which the shipmasters brought from Holland, at the erection of the church. It has the following inscription: “*Soli Deo gloria, Michael Burgerhuys me-keit, David Jonking, maerchant of Edinbruge, gifted this bell to the kirk of the Queensferrie. Cursed be they that takes it frae there. Anno domino 1635.*” It has a spire and two bells, and a council-room, in which the magistrates and council meet for the despatch of business.

III.—POPULATION

The population, as given in to Dr Webster, was			400
in 1791,	.	.	505
1801,	.	.	454
1821,	.	.	700
1831,	.	.	684
1841,	.	.	721
1843,	.	.	662

In 1831, there were 313 males, and 371 females, and in 1841, 339 males, and 382 females, in 169 families.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

No attempt hitherto made to supply the town and neighbourhood with white fish has proved successful. In the summer months they are brought here in boats from the east coast of Fife, by several persons, who carry on a profitable trade in this article. In

winter, it is very mortifying to see the London fishing smacks fitted with wells, carrying off numerous cargoes of cod to the southern markets, while our own fishermen only occasionally, while engaged in the herring-fishery, employ a line or two for that purpose with very indifferent success. To the westward of the town a salmon-fishery has been established, which has been carried on very successfully by its present tenant, Mr M'Queen. Stake-nets are employed, in which, particularly in the months of July and August, great numbers of salmon, grilises, and sea trout are caught. They are regularly sent to the Edinburgh market after supplying the demand in the neighbourhood.

The herring-fishery is the principal employment of the inhabitants during the winter months. Masons, quarriers, with the regular fishermen, are occupied from the end of November to the beginning of March in this very useful and profitable branch of industry. It commenced in the year 1792, opposite to the town, in St Margaret's Hope, Inverkeithing Bay, &c. Since that time it has been carried on with various degrees of success. The early period of the fishery was more successful than in recent years. During the war, the prices were high, and several curers embarked in the trade, and so many as 600 barrels were cured at this port. In 1831, which was a very abundant fishery, perhaps 1500 barrels were cured; but the curers, unable to cope with the carters, who came from all quarters of the country to purchase the herrings, could take advantage of those days only when the supply exceeded the demand. Forty or fifty carts were frequently in attendance, carrying away from 6000 to 12000 each. The price varied from 6d. to 1s. 6d. per 100. The curers seldom purchased at a higher price than 7s. the cran or barrel. There are twelve boats belonging to the town, carrying each four or five men, and furnished generally with twelve nets, fifty yards long and thirteen yards deep. But the boats employed in the fishery from other places, Fisherrow, Prestonpans, Cellardykes, Buckhaven, &c. may amount to about 50 or 100; the greater part of these discharge their cargoes at this port. This occasions a considerable bustle in the town, and is a principal source of revenue, each boat paying 4d. and every cart 6d. When the curing goes forward briskly, about twelve women are employed in preparing the herring for the barrels, which pay a duty, when cured on the pier, of 4d., and in the port, 2d. Those who are expert in the business can easily earn 2s. or 3s. per day. Though this trade is most beneficial to the country at large, it is

not favourable to the morality of the town. The use of ardent spirits is greatly increased, and the influx of carters, not generally of the most exemplary character, casts an influence round the herring season which is most injurious to sound morals. Since the year 1831, the fishery of herrings has been very irregular. Occasionally, some good seasons have occurred; but, in general, they have been very unproductive. For three or four years, in the herring-season, immense shoals of garvies, mixed with young herrings, have appeared off the town and adjoining bays. They are an excellent article of food, and have amply rewarded the exertions of the fishermen when in demand; but the Board of Fishery has often interfered, under the idea that the use of the trawl net, with small meshes, is injurious to the herring fishery. It is much to be wished that this matter were settled, so as to allow the fishermen to pursue their avocations. They must destroy many young herrings, but they are a mere fraction to the myriads of garvies that fill the water.

A number of females are very profitably occupied in the summer months in spinning hemp for nets, which the younger members of the family (boys and girls) work up with great neatness, and expedition. A net when finished is worth about L. 3, though an ingenious individual, Mr Paterson, once resident here, but now removed to his manufactory in Musselburgh, is able to furnish them at L. 2, 10s., by the aid of machinery, which he has brought to an astonishing degree of perfection. In the summer months a few boats of larger size, from the end of July to the beginning of September, are employed in the northern or western fishery, each boat engaging with the curers, to furnish about 200 or 250 barrels, for which they receive 7s. or 8s., and sometimes a higher sum. But they are not always able to complete their quantity. A few of the young men also, from time to time, went to the Greenland whale-fishery, though misfortune and want of success in recent years have rather deterred them from engaging in this hazardous voyage, and they generally engage in the coasting trade, or proceed in vessels engaged in the North American wood trade.

The manufacture of soap was formerly carried on with great skill, and on a great scale, in this town. There were four works employing about thirty or forty men, and paying an excise duty of L. 8000 or L. 10,000 per annum. But the fluctuations of trade have been experienced here, as well as in other quarters, and for the last seven years there has been only one small manufactory employing

three or four men, and this also has for several years been discontinued. The trade is precarious, and far from lucrative. The workmen make good wages, and, as the business is at present conducted, the morals of those engaged do not suffer.

There are no vessels belonging to the port, though a person having ship property resides here. The foreign trade is not carried on, though various coasting-vessels from time to time arrive here with barley for the distillery here and at Kirkliston. The coals used by the inhabitants are nearly all sea-borne, and in the winter months, some farmers in the country have been in the practice of shipping potatoes for the London markets, and receiving in the course of the season cargoes of rape-cake, drain-tiles, dung, &c. A few cargoes of stones are also sent to different ports, from an excellent freestone quarry at Humbie, about three miles distant.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The situation of Queensferry is favourable for communication with the metropolis and the northern parts of the kingdom. The water passage is admirably managed. The great northern road is in the very best state of repair, while that to Edinburgh cannot be exceeded in excellence. This was the first turnpike road in West Lothian, formed in the year 1751. There is a post-office, at which the mail arrives from Edinburgh at half-past 6 A.M., and 5 P.M. and from the north at 5 A.M. and 8 P.M. There are two coaches which leave the town each morning for Edinburgh, and return in the evening. At various times in the day there are four other coaches which pass to and from the north. On the opening of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway, in February 1842, a minibus started to join it at the Winchburgh station. It was discontinued during the winter, and has not yet been resumed.

There is much obscurity about the establishment of the water passage. It was once private property, and appears to have been attached to the lands of Muirycroft, consisting of seventeen acres, in the immediate vicinity of the town. These were, it is supposed, a donation from Queen Margaret, for supporting the passage. There were formerly two classes of proprietors; the holders of shares, and the holders of boats and yawls. A change took place in 1784, when the whole boats were purchased by the shareholders and let by annual roup. They were kept in a state of good repair, and the arrangements devised by the proprietors were so judiciously carried into effect, that the interests of the public were as well consulted as circumstances would permit. The state of

the piers and shippings was, however, a great barrier in the way of comfort. Those on the south side, especially, were in a very ruinous condition, and at certain states of the tide much risk and inconvenience were experienced in landing and embarking passengers.

This state of things continued till 1809, when a general desire was felt to improve the water passage, both by altering the system of management, and making such changes as its increasing importance demanded. An application was made to Parliament in 1809, rendered necessary by the following circumstances,—that there were no suitable piers,—no superintendents,—boats only at the North Ferry, where all the boatmen lived,—other traffic at the wharfs, unconnected with the passage,—and the arrangements at the piers so incomplete, as to admit of passage only four and a half hours in each tide. The rates and dues belonged to individuals, and the jurisdiction was such, that the proprietors could not be compelled to keep the piers in a state of repair.

By the act, trustees were nominated, consisting of the following persons, viz. the Keeper of the Great Seal, Privy Seal, Lord Justice-General, Lord Advocate, Lord Justice-Clerk, Lord Clerk-Register, Lord Chief-Baron, and Vice-Admiral of Scotland, Keeper of the Signet, Postmaster-General for Scotland, Lord Lieutenants of Perth, Linlithgow, Fife, Kinross, Clackmannan, Commander of the Forces, Admiral of Leith; Chief Magistrates of Perth, Linlithgow, Queensferry, Inverkeithing, Dunfermline; the Sheriffs of the counties; the proprietor of the estate of New-Halls; and all having L.200 Scots valuation in the above counties. Nine trustees to be a quorum; a committee of management consisting of fifteen, who have the power of making bye-laws. To these trustees, by the act, was committed the power of constructing landing-places, purchasing ground for boatmen's houses, opening quarries in any common in Fife, on the shore, within high water-mark, between Port Edgar and the Long Craig.

At this time there was only one pier on the north side, two on the south, one at New-Halls, the other at Queensferry.* Advantageous, however, as an alteration and improvement of the passage obviously were, there was great and continued opposition, which at length was happily overcome. The localities for the proposed piers were surveyed by the celebrated Rennie. The Chancellor of

* For the privilege of erecting a pier here, L. 10 are annually paid by the trustees to the town.

the Exchequer agreed to propose to Parliament to advance one-half of the money required for the purchase of shares and the erection of piers, on condition that the other half should be advanced by individuals. The sum expended in purchasing the property of the shareholders, and improvements at the Ferry, amounted to L. 83,824, 14s. 9½d.; of this, the public paid L.13,586, 11s. 8d., and there were lent by individuals, in sums of L.500, L.20,238, 3s. 1½d.

The purchase of the original shares amounted to	L.8678	18	10½
The North Ferry pier cost	4206	19	6
The signal house,	406	10	0
The superintendent's house and garden,	260	9	1
A stripe of ground leading to the Long Craig,	300	0	0
The pier at Port Edgar, 378 feet long. cost	4763	13	10
New-Halls' pier, 722 feet in length, cost	8696	0	0
The small pier at Port Nuick,	587	11	11
Land and building six houses, at South Queensferry,	909	11	6

The original funds subscribed being exhausted, there was a second application, in 1812, made to Government, and a new subscription. By these means the Long Craig Pier was built;* the small East Battery Pier; the West Battery Pier on the north side was raised and enlarged; the North Ferry Pier lengthened, &c.

Steam navigation was introduced, and the Queen Margaret put on the passage on October 1st 1821. This caused additional expense in the raising of the piers. To meet this, the sinking fund was pledged, two large sailing boats were put down, and two pinnaces with their crews. The Queen Margaret cost L.2369. Since September 1820, there have been three large sailing boats of the original construction, the Earl of Moray half-tide boat, and three pinnaces. The crews of these, thirty-six men and boys. The hire of a boat, when light, 2s. 6d.; dark, 5s. Large ditto, light, 5s.; dark, 6s. Exemptions from the above rates, mail horses or expresses from the post-office; soldiers on march, horses of officers, ordnance carts, volunteers, if in uniform; carts carrying vagrants with the legal passes. By the act, not more than two-thirds of the boats and yawls to remain at each side. The boatmen are not liable to be impressed. Two superintendents to be appointed.

Steam navigation by the Frith and across it, by coaches passing to Burntisland, greatly diminished the number of passengers at this ferry, but in 1811, we have the following account: 228 persons crossed each day, and sometimes 447; 1515 carriages annu-

The long Craig Pier is 1177 feet in length.

ally; 4254 carts do.; 13,154 horses do.; 18,057 cattle do.; 25,151 sheep do.; 5520 barrel bulk do.; 2615 dogs do.

The expenses of the steam-boat per week, are as follows :

Engineer,	.	.	L.1	10	0
Skipper,	.	.	1	5	0
Two seamen, 18s.,	.	.	1	16	0
Fireman,	.	.	0	17	0
Coals average,	.	.	5	10	0
Tallow, oil, rope yarns,	.	.	1	16	0

Total,	.	.	L.12	14	0
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The steam-boat has contributed much to the accommodation of passengers in calm weather and cross winds; the boats, instead of being long on their passage as they formerly were, being taken in tow by the Queen Margaret, are scarcely twenty minutes in passing. There are two porters at each side paid by the trustees. The boats are manned by experienced seamen, well acquainted with the navigation, generally regular in their habits, and polite in their attention to passengers. No loss of a boat has occurred for more than sixty years; and this may be considered one of the best regulated ferries in the kingdom. In October 1838, a most melancholy accident occurred at the Newhalls Pier, owing to the very reprehensible practice of driving the coaches to the water's edge along the piers, to receive passengers from the boats. A young lady and a female servant were precipitated with the coach, into which they had just entered, into the water, and drowned before they could be extricated. The mother of the lady and a gentleman had nearly shared the same fate. Since that fatal day, which will not be speedily forgotten, the practice of driving on the pier has been abandoned. Two or three times in the year the boats may be prevented from crossing by stormy weather or contrary winds, but this very rarely extends to a few hours. At the present time, 1831, the rental of the passage is L.1840 per annum; the tacksmen engaging to keep up the boats and pay the wages of the men.

The harbour of Queensferry was once in a very ruinous condition, but is now in a very excellent state of repair. The funds for making the recent improvements were raised by a contribution of L.600 from the convention of royal burghs; L.200 from the two noble families in the neighbourhood; and the remaining L.800 from the funds of the burgh, arising from the sale of the Ferry muir to Dundas of Dundas for L.1610. In winter, when the herring-fishery is prosperous, the harbour is often crowded with ves-

sels engaged in curing. The dues exigible by the town, which are almost the only source of revenue now possessed by the burgh, are let annually by public roup. Since the removal of the soap trade, the rental has been gradually falling off, and now amounts only to L.80 per annum; since the erection of the distillery, it has risen to L. 100.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is placed in the centre of the town, and is most convenient for the inhabitants. It is in an excellent state of repair, and may accommodate about 400 persons. There are numerous free sittings, more than are equal to the demand. The seats, with the exception of three free seats, are annually let by public roup, under the authority, and at the sight of the magistrates. The rental forms a part of the stipend. There is neither manse nor glebe belonging to the minister. The living is increased by a Government allowance of L. 49, 13s. 4d.; and in lieu of a manse and glebe, L.50 have been recently granted by a late act of Parliament.

Ministers.—1. Mr Robert Gibbeson, ordained 13th August 1635, and died in 1641; 2. Mr Ephraim Melville, grandson of Andrew Melville, ordained 1st September 1641, transported to Livingston, 1650; 3. Mr John Primrose, ordained 28th October 1652, removed in 1662, by the Indulgence came back to Queensferry, and died 28th December 1673. There were six ministers between 1673 and 1690. Of the number, Archibald Buchan continued only one year, in 1688. None of them died here. Most of the number appear to have preached without being regularly inducted. 4. Mr Donald Campbell, transported from Muiravonside in December 1693, died in 1697; 5. Mr John Grieson, ordained in 1700, and died in the year 1709; 6. Mr James Kid, ordained 28th September 1710, and died 9th February 1743; 7. Mr Archibald M'Aulay, ordained 1746, and died 1781; 8. Mr John Henderson, ordained 1782, died June 1820; 9. Mr Thomas Dimma, ordained 16th November 1820.

There is one Dissenting meeting-house here belonging to the Associate Synod. The stipend, it is believed, amounts to L.90 per annum, raised from the seat-rents. Families attending the Established Church, December 1830, 110; number of persons in the above, 464; number attending Dissenters, in forty-one families, 194; Roman Catholics, in three families, 14. At the present time, April 1843, the families attending the parish church are 111, and the number of persons in these, 448. The number

of families, in connection with the Dissenters, is 40, containing 214 persons, of whom 9 are Roman Catholics, and 11 belong to other religious denominations. There are 169 communicants belonging to the Established Church.

Divine service is well attended both in the Established Church and Dissenting congregation; although it is to be regretted, that many connected with each, are either very partial, or altogether negligent in their attendance on ordinances. The average number of regular communicants in the Established Church is 130. There is a penny a-week Bible society, and collections are annually made in the church, for various religious and charitable purposes, which may amount on an average to L.12 or L.15 annually. The average of the collections made at the church-door in aid of the poor funds, amounts, for the last ten years, to the annual sum of L.35, but now to about L. 28.

Education.—There are three schools in the town, viz. the burgh or parochial, one private and unendowed, and one female school. The usual branches are taught in the burgh school, including English, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, geography, mathematics, Latin, Greek, and French. In the private school, English, writing, and arithmetic; in the ladies' school, the various branches of female education, including music and drawing. The salary of the burgh teacher is L.29, 4s. 6d. per annum, which, with the addition of the school-fees, can scarcely make an income of L. 60. The average annual expense of a single pupil varies from 10s. to L.1, 10s. The burgh school is numerously attended, and well taught. A new school-room is just nearly finished for the reception of the pupils, in room of the old one, which was the worst in the bounds, while the new erection will be one of the best in the country.

Libraries.—There is one subscription library, containing nearly 600 volumes, one under the management of the Associate Burgher congregation of 400 volumes, and one belonging to the Sabbath school, containing 1335 small publications suited to the young. This school has been taught by the minister, for twenty-two years, every Sabbath evening, for two hours and upwards, and has proved of great advantage to the rising generation. It has always been well attended. The library has been most beneficial in exciting a taste for reading, and storing the minds of the young with useful knowledge.

Friendly Societies.—There are two Friendly societies in the

town, from which allowances are made during sickness, and at death, the funeral expenses are paid. It is another feature in one of these, a weekly payment is made of one shilling and a penny, which is paid out in one sum, half-yearly, at the time when house-rents are due.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of the regular poor, 16; allowance monthly, from 3s. 6d. to 8s.; church-door collections, L.35; rent of money and land, L.23; average of legacies, mortcloth, and marriage dues, L.5; interest of L.5000 just bequeathed by Captain Henry Meek, deceased, a native of the parish, and now payable, making the allowance of 37 persons on the roll from 3s. 6d. to 8s. per month. From this fund, also, about twenty children are educated. No means have ever been adopted to procure relief for the poor, but the usual mode of church-door collection. This has hitherto met every demand without having recourse to assessments. The poor of this parish have in former times been unusually well provided for by the kind attentions of various individuals in the respectable classes, but by death and a change of circumstances this supply has been very much diminished. By a decision of the Court of Session, the poor residing in Queensferry, but in that part of it belonging to the parish of Dalmeny, have been found entitled to share in the bequest. This adds about 25 persons, who receive an allowance from the Meek funds. It has not been found that there is any great reluctance to apply for parochial relief, though, in many cases, it has been offered before it was sought. It has often, however, been observed, that many persons permit their aged relatives to remain on the poor-roll, which, with a better spirit, they might easily prevent. The collections at the church-door have been greatly diminished since the Meek bequest has been dispensed. One mode of relieving the poor is well deserving of imitation by those whom Providence has blessed with the means. The Countess of Rosebery gives employment in spinning to the widows and industrious females of the town, who are able to earn at least 2s. or 3s. each month. This produces excellent effects on the inhabitants, and induces them to practice a useful art, in many quarters of the country fallen into disuse.

There is a jail in the burgh, or rather a lock-up house. Prisoners are seldom detained beyond a single night, being removed after examination to Linlithgow. The town-officer is the keeper of the jail.

Fair.—The annual fair in August is injurious to the morals of those who only require excitement to indulge in intemperance, but agreeable to others whose families are happily assembled at that time. A custom has been observed, from time immemorial, the evening before the fair: the boys dress one of their number with a covering of *burs*, from head to foot, adorning him with ribbons and flowers, and conducting him, led by his companions, through the town and neighbourhood. They receive small donations from the inhabitants. The origin of this practice cannot be ascertained.

Inns, Alehouses, &c.—There are 1 inn in the town, 8 alehouses, and 4 shops where accommodation is provided for drinking. The facilities enjoyed here for the use of ardent spirits have been most prejudicial to the morals of the people. Accidents of a most frightful character have occurred almost every year from the immoderate use of spirits, and though there have been deaths both by fire and water, the votaries of dissipation are neither improved nor diminished in number. There are much poverty and wretchedness originating from this cause; children are neglected by their parents, and families are reduced to misery by the dissolute habits of those who ought to provide for them.

Coals are brought by sea from Fife, and from Bo-ness, &c. by carts. They are seldom furnished at a lower rate than 10s. per ton, and sometimes a much higher price. When sold in small quantities to the poor, the cost is much greater.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In the summer months this place is much resorted to by many for sea-bathing and change of air. The accommodation is gradually improving, and the delightful walks in the vicinity render it particularly attractive. Since the date of the last Statistical Account, the appearance of the town is considerably improved; several new houses have been erected, and alterations made contributing both to beauty and convenience. Shops of a more respectable description have been established, and the demand from the country increasing, enables the merchants to retail at prices very similar to those in the metropolis. The brewery long established here has been discontinued. For two years, a distillery has been in operation here, under the firm of the Glenforth Distillery Company. It is on a small scale, making from 1700 to 2600 gallons weekly; but, being fitted up in the most approved manner, and skilfully managed, it produces spirits of the first qua-

lity. It gives employment to about twenty persons, and adds considerably to the trade of the port in its imports and exports.

Since June 1838, a new steamer, the William Adam, has been put on the passage, the Queen Margaret having proved inadequate to the work required. The new vessel was built by the Messrs Menzies, and her engine, of forty horses' power, by Mr Maxton, Leith. Length, 98 feet, and breadth, 32 feet. She has proved a very superior sea-boat, and renders this ferry one of the best and easiest in the kingdom. She leaves the south side every hour, and the north side at the half hour, from sunrise to sunset. The William Adam was honoured by conveying Queen Victoria and Prince Albert across the Frith, on her royal progress to the north, on the 5th September 1842. The day was most beautiful; the water unruffled; the crowds on both shores very great; the sea covered by numerous steamers and boats, gayly adorned; indeed, the whole scene was calculated to make an impression not speedily to be forgotten. It is understood that the Sovereign expressed the greatest satisfaction with all the arrangements made on board the steamer. Mr Mason, the superintendent, took the helm, while the attentive skipper, Charles Roxburgh, attended to the other duties.

Since the William Adam was put on the passage, which cost L.2800, raised by subscriptions among the trustees, the establishment has been greatly reduced, as the steamer, except at the great cattle fairs, performs nearly the whole duty of the passage. There are, however, two large boats and two pinnaces, which can be used when required. The number of working hands amounts now only to sixteen, with a shore-master, clerk, and two porters, at each side. The rental paid by the tacksmen at this date amounts to L.1880. It may be useful to notice the expense attending the steamer on the passage, viz. three tons of coal consumed per day, at 8s. 6d.; oil for the engine per do., a quarter of a gallon; cotton per month, half a hundred weight. The boilers require to be cleaned every fortnight, at 14s. of charge; the furnace bars are renewed every six months; a quarter of a hundred weight of tallow is used per month; and the expense of ropes, &c. per week, may amount to L.1. The crew consists of five men and a boy, whose wages amount to L.5, 5s. per week. It is pleasant to be able to speak of the correct and steady management of this ferry, when travellers know the very minute when they can procure a passage, and, by well regulated signals, when

on the water, secure the presence of a carriage awaiting them on their arrival at the pier, where civil porters and hostlers, connected with the establishments on each shore, consult the comfort and convenience of passengers, who may calculate on crossing in ten or twelve minutes.

Revised April 1843.

PARISH OF ABERCORN.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN & TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. LEWIS H. IRVING, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THIS parish derives its name, written formerly Abercorne, from the ancient monastery of Aebercurnig. The confluence of a rivulet, called the Cornie burn, with another stream at the bottom of the high bank on which the church stands, points out the probable origin of the name as descriptive of the site of the monastery.

The parish extends $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles in extreme length, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in extreme breadth, containing 7.03 square miles. It is of a rectangular figure, stretching east and west, and bounded on the east by Dalmeny; on the south, by Kirkliston, Auldcathie, (an annexed portion of Dalmeny,) and Ecclesmachau; on the west, by Linlithgow and Carriden; and on the north, by the Firth of Forth.

The surface is exceedingly diversified, but although broken into many picturesque undulations and irregularities, no part of it attains an elevation above 350 feet. Two points alone have received the name of hills, Binns hill and Priestinch hill. The former, at the western extremity of the parish, is arable to the summit: insulated and rising with uninterrupted slope from the sea, although of no great height, it commands an extensive and magnificent view of the shores of the Frith, and the circumjacent country, with a bounding amphitheatre of hills, formed by the Grampian, Ochil, Pentland, and Campsie ranges. Priestinch hill, on the south border of the parish, is a precipitous mass of trap-rock, surrounded on three sides by a green bog called the

Priestinch. Its altitude is inconsiderable. The summit is nearly flat, of an oval form, and has been rudely fortified at some remote period. The shore is clayey, intersected at several points by low ranges of rock : near high water-mark, the beach is covered with rolled stones and boulders of greenstone. The bottom is flat to seaward, the tide receding a great way, but inland the ground rises abruptly, presenting a steep, though not precipitous bank, from 80 to 100 feet high. The line of coast, extending about four miles, is of singular beauty. Seen from the terraces and rides judiciously conducted along the heights,—a series of irregular promontories with receding bays and steep undulating banks, clothed with trees to the water's edge, except where a few green slopes and winding glades occur, just sufficient to break the uniformity of the wood,—form a rich foreground to the varied views of mountain, shore, and flood beyond.

Meteorology.—The average temperature for seventeen years, obtained from a register kept by Mr Smith at Hopetoun House, is $46\frac{1}{8}^{\circ}$.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth is here about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles broad, the water is much discoloured from the particles of impalpable mud suspended, and prevented from subsiding by the action of the tides and winds. The degree of saltness is not materially lower than that found nearer the mouth of the Frith. The springs are perennial, but neither frequent nor very abundant, flowing chiefly from the coal measures ; they are more or less tinged with iron and sulphuretted hydrogen. One spring has been used medicinally, but its qualities are by no means powerful ; its waters have not been analyzed. There are several artificial sheets of water of small extent, two of them employed as mill-ponds ; the others are ornamental. The only streams are mere rivulets ; the largest, the Midhope, or Nethermill burn, rises in the parish of Linlithgow, about seven miles from its mouth, entering this parish at the south-west angle ; it flows easterly through a deep wooded glen, and reaches the coast a few hundred feet below the church, being joined near the sea by the Cornie burn, a still smaller rivulet. Blackness burn, which separates Abercorn from Carriden, and the Linnmill burn, which divides it from Dalmeny, both flowing north, and neither of them above one mile and a-half in length, exhaust the slender hydrography of the district.

Geology.—The strata are much deranged and interrupted ; the prevailing direction is from north-east to south-west, and the dip

north-westerly, the angle varying from 5 to 60 degrees. The most remarkable disturbance is seen in the ravine, near the mouth of the Nethermill burn. The rocks are the sandstone, shales, limestone, &c. of the coal-formation, with protruded masses of trap, such as Binns hill, Priestinch hill, and two or three of smaller extent. The limestone occurs denuded in the central and eastern portions of the parish; the stratum is about 10 feet thick, covered with an alluvial deposit of gravel, clay, and rolled stones; fossil shells, and beautiful impressions of ferns, have been found in the accompanying shales. Coal appears, and clay-ironstone in the south and south-west districts, but the seams, so far as yet explored, are of minor importance. Calcspar is abundant in the fissures of the limestone, but the crystals are small and insignificant. The general alluvial deposits consist of clay, mixed with gravel and rolled stones. The bank on which the church stands, and some others near the coast, seem to be composed of gravel and beds of sand. The soil is varied,—loam on a clay bottom is its most prevalent aspect; the loam is shallow, except in hollow and peculiar localities. Boulders of greenstone, weighing several tons, are occasionally met with. A small coal mine has existed for a few years past at Priestinch, close to the Union Canal, in the neighbourhood of which the coal crops out, dipping to the north-west at an angle of 20° . The seams are small, the upper one being eighteen inches, and the under one twelve inches in thickness, separated by three feet of shale, a band of clay ironstone, four inches thick. Both seams of coal are soft and friable; the lower one is used as smithy coal, and yields the better price.

Zoology.—An otter (*Lutra vulgaris*) was killed some years ago in the Nethermill burn. The Hopetoun deer-park, extending to 118 acres, is stocked with between 200 and 300 head of fallow-deer, (*Cervus dama*.) Squirrels (*Sciurus vulgaris*) abound in the woods. The weasel (*Mustela vulgaris*) is common. The stoat (*M. erminea*) and the polecat (*M. putorius*) are more rarely found. The seal (*Phoca vitulina*), and the porpoise (*Delphina Phocæna*) occasionally visit the shores. Sir Robert Sibbald mentions the capture of a whale, in 1692, at Abercorn, of the razor-back species, (*Rorqualis borealis*), measuring 78 feet long, which had infested the Forth for twenty years, and from a perforation in its dorsal fin by a ball, was known by the name of the “hollie pike.” The fox (*Vulpes vulgaris*) is tolerated in the coverts for the chase; hares are numerous, and of late years, the multitude of rabbits has

become a nuisance. Buildings are much infested with the brown rat (*Mus decumanus*) and the common mouse (*M. musculus*); whilst the black rat (*M. rattus*) and the short-tailed field-mouse (*Arvicola agrestis*) are not plentiful. The pheasant (*Phasianus Colchicus*) has been introduced, and has multiplied extensively in the preserves; the partridge (*Perdix cinerea*) is not abundant; woodcocks (*Scolopax Rusticola*), snipe (*S. Gallinago*), and wild-duck (*Anas Boschas*) are still rarer. The cuckoo is a yearly visitant, and the woods are alive in summer with the notes of the blackbird and thrush, and the cooing of the wood-pigeon. The smaller birds common to the climate are plentiful; the numbers of the missel-thrush or storm-cock (*Turdus viscivorus*) have latterly much increased. During the protracted severity of the winter, in the commencement of 1838, a male blackbird was repeatedly observed, whose plumage had become snow-white, with the exception of a few speckled feathers. The crested lapwing (*Vanellus cristatus*), the dottrel (*Charadrius Morinellus*), and the grey plover (*Squatarola cinerea*), are frequent. The shores are peopled with flocks of waders, consisting of plovers, gulls, (*Larus fuscus*, *L. argentatus*, and *L. eanus*), and the lesser auk (*Alca Torda*.) Apart from which the heron (*Ardea cinerea*) seeks his food in lonely spots. An exterminating warfare is waged against the crows, magpies, hawks, and owls, but the various races contrive still to exist. Several years ago a pair of black swans (*Cygnus atratus*), from New Holland were placed in a pond near Hopetoun House, and bred repeatedly: but the female having been unfortunately destroyed one winter by a fox, the male bird remains the sole tenant of his pool. Salmon (*Salmo salar*), and its congeners (*Salmo trutta*, and *S. albus*), approach the coast when the season is somewhat advanced. Skate (*Raia Batis*), and flounders (*Platessa Flesus*), are frequently caught, soles (*Solea vulgaris*) occasionally, and sometimes, but very rarely, sturgeon (*Accipenser Sturio*.)

The common muscle (*Musculus edulis*) is found in considerable quantities. Formerly some attention was paid to the formation and preservation of the scalps, so as to furnish abundant bait for white-fishing, but they have been now long neglected. The cuttle fish (*Sepia vulgaris*) is at times cast ashore.

Botany.—From the small portion of the land that is waste or in a state of nature, the botanist has but a narrow range in proportion to the extent of surface. The sea-shore and the neighbouring water-courses furnish the following list of rarer plants;

Ligusticum Scoticum
 Cynoglossum officinale
 Convolvulus sepium
 Parnassia palustris (near the shore)
 Triglochin maritimum
 Chrysosplenium alternifolium
 ————— oppositifolium
 Arenaria rubra
 ————— marina
 Asplenium ruta muraria
 ————— trichomanes
 ————— adiantum nigrum
 Grimmia leucophæa

Spergula nodosa
 Euphorbia esula
 Thalictrum majus
 Scrophularia aquatica
 Ononis arvensis
 Astragalus hypoglottis
 Hypericum pulchrum
 Aster trifolium
 Habenaria viridis
 ————— bifolia
 Didymodon capillaceum
 Bryum punctatum
 ————— ligulatum

Trees of many kinds have been extensively planted, and thrive well, particularly beech, elm, oak, sycamore, lime, and chestnut, Scots, silver, and spruce fir, and larch. The masses of wood are penetrated and rendered accessible in every direction by rides and green glades, whose windings and recesses afford many exquisite glimpses of forest scenery. The plantations have been chiefly formed during the early part of last century, and there are but few traces of great age. The cedar trees (*Cedrus Libani*) in the Hopetoun pleasure-grounds are well worthy of notice, from their size and beauty. Planted only in 1748, the largest already measures 15 feet 7½ inches in girth, and 87 feet between the extremities of its branches. The increase of girth has been 5 feet within the last thirty years. In the same grounds, a sweet chestnut tree (*Fagus castanea*) measures 13 feet 9 inches, and an aged beech 14 feet 4 inches in circumference. The growth of the silver firs (*Abies picea*,) planted early in the last century, is remarkable, several being nearly 100 feet high. The tulip trees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) are of considerable size, and frequently flower. The hemlock spruce (*Abies Canadensis*) has been introduced, and grows vigorously. To the east of the house, near a quarry, a plane tree (*Acer pseudo-platinus*,) of 14½ feet in girth, is more notable for the number of its spreading branches and the ground it covers than for the thickness of its trunk, the distance betwixt the extremities of its boughs being 116 feet. A range of gigantic ash trees (*Fraxinus excelsior*,) of unknown age, marks the ancient boundary of the parish churchyard. The largest measures 16 feet in girth. Their hoary trunks and shattered limbs are monumental of generations long since passed away, whose dust slumbers at their feet. In an arboretum attached to the gardens at Hopetoun House are several Scots firs (*Pinus sylvestris*) of great size and picturesque form, and groups of various exotic trees; amongst others, the *Cedrus deodara* and the *Abies mirinda*

from the Himalaya. One of the latter, a very graceful tree, but a few years old, has attained the height of 20 feet; whilst several vigorous specimens in various parts of the grounds are curious from being grafted on the common spruce fir. A Siberian pine (*Pinus cembra Siberica*) in one of the flower-borders, is remarkable for the peculiarity of its form and the tardiness of its growth. With a vigorous thickly-thatched head, it is only 5½ feet high, and its trunk but a few inches in diameter, though nearly a hundred years old.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—The Monastery of Aebercurnig is more than once mentioned by Bede, and appears to have been a Culdee establishment of early date. In the latter part of the seventh century, it formed the residence of a bishop, at a period when Whitherne in Galloway was the only other Episcopal seat south of the Forth. In 696, when Aegfrid, King of the Northumbrians, whose kingdom included the Lothians, was slain in battle by the northern Picts, *Trumuini*, who then held the see, deeming Abercorn too near the Pictish kingdom of Fife, forsook the monastery with his followers.* *Trumuini*, of whom Bede speaks with respect, was in all likelihood a Culdee bishop, as the papal authority had then but little influence in Scotland. The Castle and estate of Abercorn were possessed by Walter Avenale in the middle of the twelfth century; and in 1176, a dispute took place betwixt his son, John Avenale, and Richard, second Bishop of Dunkeld, regarding the patronage of the parish, the monastery being then extinct. As might be expected in those days, the claim of the prelate was triumphant. In 1460, the whole church lands belonging to the Bishop of Dunkeld on this side of the Forth, including Abercorn, Cramond, Preston, and Aberlady, were erected into one barony, called the barony of Aberlady. In the thirteenth century, the estate of Abercorn passed by marriage into the possession of the Graemes, and was held by the patriot, Sir John the Graeme, the friend of Wallace, killed in battle against the English at Falkirk July 22d 1298. The estate was subsequently the property of the Black Douglasses. Abercorn Castle, a strong natural position, partook of the fortunes of that proud house. Repeatedly attacked during a period peculiarly turbulent, it was besieged by James II. in 1455, and taken by storm on the 8th of April.† The Earl's retainers were put to the sword, and

* Bede, Hist. iv. 26.

† Godscroft, p. 203, folio ed.

the castle destroyed. Buchanan speaks of it as "*semidiruta arx*" in his time. It was never rebuilt. The estate was conferred by the Crown on Claud Hamilton, the first Viscount Paisley, third son to the Earl of Arran. Forfeited for his adherence to the fortunes of Mary, it was restored to his son by James VI., created in 1606 Earl of Abercorn. From this family it passed successively to the Mures, Lindsays of the Byres, and Setons, and was sold by Sir Walter Seton in 1678 to John Hope, father to the first Earl of Hopetoun. The estate had dwindled at that time to a few acres, but had the sheriffship of the county attached to it, until the abolition of heritable jurisdictions.

Eminent Men.—Thomas Dalrymple of Binns, a General in the army, and for some years at the head of the forces in Scotland, was born in this parish in 1615. His private eccentricities furnished scope for the sarcastic pen of Swift in the *Memoirs of Captain Creighton*, while the public history of General Dalrymple forms an important element in the narrative of the troubles of the Kirk of Scotland. Undaunted courage, and blind devoted fidelity to his sovereign, form almost the sole redeeming points in a life redolent of cruelty. He died at Edinburgh in 1685. The family vault, erected in 1623, is attached to the church, but of his place of sepulture there is no record. His portrait, well executed, is preserved at Binns House. John Dundas of Philpstoun, advocate, procurator for the Church, and the author of the *Abridgement of the Acts of Assembly*, published in 1721, was a native of Abercorn, and a proprietor and elder within its bounds. John, fourth Earl of Hopetoun, whose character conferred a lustre of its own on the rank he held, was born at Hopetoun House in 1765. His reputation as a soldier belongs to the history of the last war, with whose details his military career as General Sir John Hope is amply interwoven. The *Corunna* dispatch, written when he assumed the command on the death of Sir John Moore, at the close of that day of mingled grief and glory, is well-known, and needs no comment. He was, however, not less remarkable for business talents of a high order, and all the milder graces of private life, than for courage and capability in the field. Created for his services Baron Niddry in 1814, he succeeded his brother James, third Earl of Hopetoun, in 1816. On his retirement from military life, he devoted himself, among other avocations, to the public business of the county over which he presided as Lord-Lieutenant, and by his assiduous and punctual attention to all the minutiae of county mat-

ters, produced a very marked amelioration. In the discharge of the functions devolving upon him as a magistrate, a landlord, and a parent, his intellectual endowments and high personal qualities of integrity, love of order, and benevolence, together with the dignity and unaffected kindliness of his deportment, invested him with a beneficial moral influence, of great power and wide extent. His sudden and comparatively premature death was felt as a public calamity, and his memory is still deeply venerated. He died at Paris, August 27th 1823. His remains have been latterly interred in a cemetery of Saxon architecture near the church. Besides the statue in bronze erected in St Andrew's Square, Edinburgh, two portraits of this Earl, painted by Raeburn, have been severally placed in the county halls at Linlithgow and Cupar. In 1822, his Majesty George IV. visited Hopetoun House on the day of his embarkation for England. This tribute of his sovereign's esteem was as singular as it was justly earned; the Earl of Hopetoun being the only private individual so honoured during the King's sojourn in Scotland.

Land-owners.—The old valuation of the parish amounts to L.6945, 7s. Scots, now divided between two proprietors, the Earl of Hopetoun, who possesses L.6212, 3s. Scots of valued rent, and the trustees of the late Sir James Dalrymple, Bart. of Binns, whose property within the parish is valued at L.733, 4s. Scots. The Hopetoun estate is an aggregation of smaller properties acquired at various periods, such as Philpstoun, Stoneyhill, and Morton, formerly possessed by branches of the house of Dundas; Duntarvie, the property of a family of Durhams; Midhope, a former seat of the Earls of Linlithgow; Craigton, possessed by the Ewings; and Duddingstoun, lately the property of Gabriel Hamilton Dundas, Esq.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial records are voluminous. The minutes of kirk-session reach from 1691 to the present time, with the exception of the years from 1737 to 1750 inclusive, during which a protracted vacancy occurred. The register of baptisms commences with the year 1585; some of the earlier portions are, however, imperfect. The record of marriage proclamations and that of deaths are complete from 1700. The ministers since the Revolution have been, Alexander Dalgleish, inducted in 1690; John Brown in 1700; Henry Lundie in 1740, transported to Edinburgh in 1758; John Richie in 1759; Hugh Meiklejohn, D. D., Professor of Church History in the University of Edinburgh, inducted in 1791; and the present incumbent in 1831.

Antiquities.—The Roman wall, or “Vallum Antonini,” connecting the Friths of Forth and Clyde, has been styled by some writers the wall of Abercorn; it is, however, matter of dispute whether that line of defence extended so far east. Sir Robert Sibbald, indeed, writing from his own observation, and Pont’s former survey, says, that the wall passed Abercorn, and terminated at the “laird of Maner’s windmill,” which occupied an abrupt eminence at the commencement of the eastern approach to Hopetoun House, where traces of escarpment are still visible.* Bede, however, states that the wall terminated at Peanfabel or Penneltum, distant about two Roman miles from the monastery of Aebercurnig.† This language would apparently determine Blackness as the Peanfabel or “head of the wall.” A prolongation or outwork may have been at some period continued along the coast as far as the “windmill knowe.” No light has been thrown on the subject by the discovery of monuments or inscriptions. The remains of the monastery have wholly disappeared; some foundations of buildings and a mass of deep black loam, of limited extent, in the vicinity of the church, are the only traces hitherto found. The site of the castle of Abercorn is marked by a green mound, the ruins having been carefully removed at the dictate of the taste prevailing when the Hopetoun pleasure-grounds were first laid out. The situation was singularly strong, accessible from the east by a narrow neck of high ground, but surrounded on all other sides with steep banks. The socket of an ancient cross, occupying its original position, was exhumed last year, in altering the west end of the church; and by the removal of an out-building, the shaft was exposed, mutilated, and converted into an obscure window lintel. The two sides visible are elaborately carved with arabesque tracery in relief, resembling the crosses at Iona. Midhope House, a building of considerable age, is in tolerable preservation. It consists of a square turretted tower, with a cumbrous addition attached to the east side. The old doorway bears above it a coronet, and the letters J. L. in cipher, the initials of the then Livingstone Earl of Linlithgow. An oak stair, of massive workmanship, still gives access to the upper stories of the house, inhabited by labourers.

Mansion-Houses.—Binns House, an irregular mass of building, garnished with turrets and embrasures, is beautifully placed on the western slope of Binns hill. It was built in 1623, and enlarged by the late proprietor. The park around is highly picturesque;

* Sibbald’s Historical Inquiries, p. 31.

† Bede Hist. i. 12.

the grassy acclivities of the hill being interspersed with scattered trees and groups of evergreens. The summit is crowned with a high round tower, forming a conspicuous land-mark. Duddingstoun House, a modern erection, of a heavy castellated character, stands on high ground in the south-east of the parish, and commands an extensive view. Hopetoun House, the principal residence of the family of that name, holds a pre-eminent place among the mansions of the land. Originally planned by Sir William Bruce of Kinross, it was commenced in 1696, but not completed until many years after, under the superintendence of Mr Adam. The front is very extended, consisting of a *corps de logis*, with advanced wings terminating in octagonal dome-roofed towers, and connected with the body of the house by sweeping colonnades. The architects have sedulously avoided all prominence in the minor details, enhancing materially the general effect. The decorations, though not obtrusive, are yet sufficiently rich and numerous to prevent heaviness or insipidity. The stables, contained in the north wing, are on a scale of princely magnificence. The internal accommodations are extensive, although convenience has been somewhat sacrificed to the production of an imposing façade. The library is rich in early specimens of printing, and illuminated conventual manuscripts. An ample collection of paintings has been formed, including works of many ancient masters, both of the Flemish and Italian schools. Occupying an elevated plateau, the front view, from the house eastward, embraces the opening of the Frith, with its picturesque shores and rocky islets, North Berwick Law closing the vista. The grounds within the plaisance are kept in high order, formerly laid out after the French symmetrical taste. The more formal arrangement has been broken down, but the quaint clipt yew-trees and grassy terraces have been sufficiently spared, to soften the transition from the style of the house and its architectural accompaniments, to the irregularities of form and outline, characteristic of the more modern alterations. The gardens are extensive, well sheltered, and of varied exposure. Much and successful pains are bestowed on their culture. The walks within the grounds, more especially along the verge of the steep sea bank, abound in interesting views, whilst the abundance of tall evergreens renders the bleak aspect of a Scottish winter less perceptible. The eastern and principal approach proceeds up the centre of an open levelled esplanade, but the western leads through an overarching avenue of noble elms, forcibly illustrating

the hypothetical origin of the long-drawn aisles and fretted vaults of the Gothic or Saracenic architecture.

III.—POPULATION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
The population of this parish was, in 1755,	•	•	1037
1792,	• 451	• 419	• 870
1801,	•	•	814
1811,	•	•	885
1821,	•	•	1044
1831,	•	•	1013
1832,	• 493	• 496	• 989

In the census of 1841, the population is stated to be 2147. This extraordinary increase arose from the residence of about 1100 labourers during the formation of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway.

From the record of baptisms, it would appear that the permanent population was more numerous in the close of the seventeenth century than at any subsequent period; the annual average of births for ten years being then about 39, whereas, for the ten years preceding 1792, it hardly reached 20, and is now but about 28. Probably the obliteration of several farms, in order to form the parks and ornamental grounds in the vicinity of Hopetoun House, may explain the decrease.

Number of persons residing in the villages,	•	•	299
country,	•	•	690

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—

Total number of imperial acres,	•	•	4496
under tillage, or laid down in grass and subject to occasional cultivation,	•	•	3700
under wood,	•	•	670
never cultivated, consisting of bog or steep banks,	•	•	21
occupied by roads, railway, canal, and beach, about	•	•	105

There is no natural wood, but the extensive plantations, covering nearly one-sixth of the whole surface, abound in all varieties of well-thriven trees. Much attention has in general been paid to thinning and pruning, and the surrounding fences are kept in excellent repair. The rent of land in cultivation varies from L.1, 15s. to L.2, 10s. The annual rent of grazing per ox is about L.3,

Wages.—Rate of country labour per day in summer, 1s. 8d., and in winter, 1s. 6d.; wages of artisans in summer, 3s., and in winter, 2s. The prices of raw produce and of mechanical work are in great measure determined by the corresponding prices in Edinburgh and its neighbourhood. Some attention has been bestowed in the improvement of the cattle, by the introduction of the Teeswater breed. The husbandry, in most respects, has

kept pace with the general improvement in method and farming implements common to the country. Furrow-draining, both with stones and tiles, is of late becoming frequent, and from the generally retentive nature of the subsoil, the results are most beneficial. Stones fit for drains abound in all directions, and drain tiles are easily procured from the manufactory at Blackness, distant but a short way from the boundary of the parish. The general duration of leases is nineteen years. The grass parks are let from year to year. The farm-buildings are by no means showy, although commodious and in good condition.

Quarries and Mines.—Several quarries of excellent freestone, in various parts of the parish, have been occasionally wrought from a very remote date. The stone is durable, and well adapted for building. The quarries in the northern and central districts yield a stone varying in hue from a cream colour to a palish-gray; in the south and south-west, a hard durable freestone is procured of an intensely dark-gray, approaching to black. Both admit of being wrought for ornamental purposes.* Hopetoun House furnishes a very favourable specimen of the lighter variety, whilst the dark has been employed in the erection of the house and offices at Duddingston. A quarry of trap, on the north face of Priestinch Hill, opened by the Road Trustees, affords the best material for roads in this vicinity. Limestone has been extensively excavated in the central and south-eastern parts of the parish. The workings are of great age; and it is traditionally reported, that the lime used in the once famous fortifications of Dunkirk was obtained from Abercorn. The stone is still quarried in considerable quantities on the farm of Newton, giving work to about ten men. It is of a dark gray colour, but becomes pure white when calcined, being very free from foreign ingredients, with the exception of carbon. It becomes so extremely friable in the process of burning as to unfit it for the draw-kiln. The method resorted to is that styled the *sow-kiln*. Its purity renders the lime fitter for agricultural purposes than for building. The bed of limestone measures 10 feet in thickness, and the depth of the alluvial covering varies from 15 to 35 feet, whose removal adds very considerably to the expense of working. The lime sells at 2s. 6d. per boll of six imperial bushels. The coal mine, near Priestinch, is of small extent, and without peculiarity. The number of people employed is about seventeen. The water is drawn off by a small steam-engine.

Fishery.—The only fishery is at the mouth of the Linn-mill Burn, where very extensive stake-nets are erected for the capture of salmon. This station was once tolerably productive, at least in the latter months of the fishing season; but of late years, the quantity taken has diminished materially. The lessee holds the right of fishing from the proprietors of a great extent of coast. The rent paid to proprietors within the parish is about L.60 yearly. During several months, nearly thirty men are employed.

Amount of Raw Produce.—The following is an approximation to the gross amount of raw produce yearly raised:—

Produce of grain of all kinds,	L.10,500	0	0
potatoes, turnips, &c.	2,000	0	0
hay,	2,000	0	0
land in pasture,	7,000	0	0
annual thinning of wood,	100	0	0
fishery, (say)	200	0	0
quarries and mines,	900	0	0

Total annual value of raw produce, L.22,700 0 0

The annual rent of real property, as assessed in 1815, was L.7722.

The burning of lime is the only branch of manufacture, with the exception of the ordinary country artisanship. There are two corn-mills driven by water, and a saw-mill lately erected, by the Earl of Hopetoun, on the Nethermill Burn, the prospective utility of which is very apparent, from the great extent of the plantations, and the quantity of full-grown timber.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The nearest market-towns are, South Queensferry, distant three and a-half miles, and Linlithgow, about six miles from the church of Abercorn. The former is the most accessible post-town to the great bulk of the inhabitants; communication by a private runner takes place twice a-day. There is neither medical practitioner, general merchant, baker, nor butcher within the parish; the villages of Newton, Society, and Philpstoun, being mere hamlets, and furnishing merely a few retail shops for groceries. The cluster of houses near the church cannot be called a village. The turnpike road from Queensferry to Linlithgow traverses the parish for nearly four and a-half miles, all the others are statute-labour roads. These, together with the bridges across the rivulets and canal, are kept in good repair. Stone and lime walls are frequent, but the most prevalent fences are hedges and dry stone dikes, which are efficiently maintained. The Union Canal passes through the south part of the parish, near its boundary, affording the most accessible means of public con-

veyance; and the line of the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway, runs alongside, and in some parts but a few yards distant from the canal. No harbour or quay exist, but small vessels with coal unload their cargoes on the beach, in the bay at Society; and limestone is some times exported in the same manner.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church stands near the centre of the north boundary of the parish, and close to the sea shore. This situation is tolerably convenient, being about three miles from the extreme points, while the greater part of the population reside within two miles. Part of the church is very ancient; the date of its original erection is, however, unknown; it was enlarged and fitted up soon after the Reformation, some of the old wood-work bearing A. D. 1579. Built at various periods without much regard to convenience or beauty, the form is most irregular, and the accommodation was wretched until 1838, when a thorough repair took place. Being now drained, floored, the walls lathed, and a heated air apparatus constructed, it forms a comfortable place of worship, nearly adequate to the wants of the community. There are no sittings let, the whole, with the exception of the private seats of the heritors, being allotted to the parishioners. The church bell, of considerable size, and handsome workmanship, presented by a naval gentleman, was formerly the bell of a Danish ship of war, and formed part of the spoil at the battle of Copenhagen. Part of the manse is of an unknown date; additions have been made to it at various times; it was last altered and repaired in 1832. The garden is large, walled, and productive. The glebe contains between five and six acres, and might let for L.15 a-year. The stipend consists of the following items: bolls of wheat (old measure,) $4\frac{1}{8}\frac{1}{4}$; barley, $92\frac{1}{8}\frac{1}{4}$; meal, $16\frac{1}{8}\frac{0}{4}$; total, $192\frac{2}{8}\frac{4}{4}$; money, L.50; for communion elements, L.8, 6s. 8d.; and the whole may average L.240. There is no dissenting place of worship in the parish; the nearest is at Queensferry. The numbers belonging to different denominations were in 1832 as follows, nor have the proportions much altered since: Established Church, 192 families; 948 persons of all ages; Seceders, 12 do.; 41 do; Episcopalians, 1 do; 2 do. The church attendance is very good. A communion-roll, embracing all the members, has been kept since 1832, and regularly revised by the kirk-session previous to the dispensation of the Lord's Supper, which takes place twice a-year. The number on that roll is at present 390; the average number of communicants at each time, is 350. The kirk-session,

consisting of the minister and seven elders, has, for seven years past, revived the custom, once maintained in the parish, of holding stated diets for prayer once a-month. This practice proves a benefit in many respects. A parochial association has existed since 1835, whose funds are equally distributed among the schemes of the Church of Scotland. A prayer meeting, connected with the subject is held monthly, and a growing interest in the object and success of missionary enterprise is discernible since its institution. The disposable funds amounted last year in contributions, L.6; four collections at church doors, to L.18; in all distributed as above, L.24.

The ordinary collections and donations for the poor amount yearly to L. 62, which, with L. 18 of extraordinary collections, gives L. 80 as the average sum collected at the church doors for all purposes.

Education.—There are two schools in the parish, the parochial school, and one exclusively for girls, supported by the Countess of Hopetoun. In the parish school, the greater part of the pupils are receiving instruction in reading, writing, English grammar, arithmetic, and geography. A few are taught mathematics, Latin, Greek, and French. The school is opened and closed with prayer. The Bible is employed as a class-book, and the Shorter Catechism universally taught. The number in attendance is about 80, chiefly boys. The explanatory system is vigorously pursued. At the female school, the children are instructed in reading, writing, English grammar, and geography. The Bible and Shorter Catechism are employed daily, and the teaching is efficient. The number of pupils is about 70, all of whom are taught to sew. A Sabbath school, under the personal superintendence of the minister and elders, has existed for some years, attended by 130 children. Classes of male and female catechumens are taught on alternate Sabbaths by the minister, averaging 14 males and 20 females, from the age of thirteen to twenty. The parish schoolmaster was permitted to retire a few years ago, retaining the salary, which is the maximum, L.84, 4s. 4½d. for life. An assistant and successor is now supported, in part, by private subscription, and receives the school-fees, the house, garden, the interest of a small mortification, and the emoluments of the session-clerk's office. These may amount to, subscriptions, L.17; interest, L.2, 12s.; session-clerk's salary, &c. L.6; school-fees, about L.30; total, L.55, 12s. The average emoluments derivable from the female school are, sub-

scription, L.14; school-fees, about L.20; total, L.34. The proper legal accommodation is furnished to the parochial teacher; and the teacher of the female school has a school-room, dwelling-house, and garden, secured to her. The expense of education varies from 8s. to L.1 annually, according to the branches required. About 12 children of the poor are educated gratuitously by the kindness of the heritors.

Literature.—A parochial library was established in 1833, and contains now 260 volumes of useful miscellaneous reading. The charge is 3s. annually, and about fifty families avail themselves of the advantage. A juvenile religious library of 180 volumes is attached to the Sabbath school: the books, furnished by a public collection some years since, are given out gratis. A friendly society existed for a number of years, but unfortunately, the capital began to diminish rapidly, from a deficiency of new contributors, and the funds were lately divided amongst the subscribers.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The opulent families have all along shown much attention to the wants of their superannuated dependents, thereby limiting the demands on the poor's fund. The number of paupers on the roll is, at an average, 11 persons, on whom depend 7. Occasional relief is afforded to 6 families. The highest annual rate of relief to regular paupers is L.3, 12s.; the lowest, L.2, 18s. No assessment has ever existed. The revenue is derived from the following sources: average of collections, L.62, 10s. 6d.; interest on a mortification and mortcloth dues, L.17, 18s. 6d.; total, L.80, 9s. Deducting session-clerk's, precen-tor's, Synod and Presbytery clerk's fees, and sexton's salary, L.13, 3s. 6d., there remains for relief of the poor, L.67, 6s. 6d. A further sum of L.19 is paid by the heritors, in voluntary subscription, for the board of a lunatic. A strong feeling of honest independence prevails, leading the people to strain every effort rather than receive habitual relief. Some striking instances of this spirit have come to the writer's knowledge.

Inns.—Besides a small inn at Society, there are three alehouses, some of which might be beneficially dispensed with.

Fuel.—Coal is almost exclusively the fuel employed.

April 1843.

PARISH OF TORPHICHEN.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. WILLIAM M. HETHERINGTON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of this parish is evidently Celtic in its origin; but etymologists are by no means agreed with regard to its true composition and meaning. The word *Tor* is unquestionably *hill*; but the latter part of the name is more doubtful. Some assert it to mean *ten*, and say that it refers to a range of hills in the vicinity having ten summits. The range, however, has not more than *seven* distinct summits; and the Gaelic word *fichead* means *twenty*, not *ten*, as they assume. The most probable derivation seems to be *Torfeochan*, or *the hill of the Ravens*. It may be regarded as some corroboration of this meaning that there is an estate in the neighbourhood of the village named *Craw hill*; and that the crest of the most extensive land proprietor in the parish is *a raven chained to a rock*, as if in allusion to the parochial name.

Boundaries, Extent, &c.—Torphichen is bounded on the east by Linlithgow; on the south by Bathgate, and part of Shotts; on the west by part of Shotts and New Monkland; and on the north by part of Slamannan and Muiravonside. Its greatest length is about 10 miles from east to west, and its greatest breadth about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. In one part the breadth is less than a mile. It contains about 10,429.77 English acres; and about 16.30 square miles.

Topographical Aspect.—The eastern part of the parish is very agreeably diversified by a succession of woody elevations, sloping terraces, and cliffy ridges, as it ascends towards the higher range of hills by which it is divided from Bathgate and Linlithgow on the east. The ridge immediately above the village has a peculiarly picturesque appearance when viewed from the east, consisting of a succession of rounded summits swelling along wave after wave, as if some enormous ocean-tide had been suddenly changed to solid earth throughout the continuous sweep of all its billowy heav-

ings. The western side of this beautiful ridge slopes gradually down into ~~softer~~ undulations, in the midst of which are situated the village, the church, and the **Preceptory** of Torphichen. The district around the village is both fertile, and **presents** a pleasing and remarkable diversity of picturesque aspects, as viewed from various points, through clusters of woody ridges, and green trees, and craggy cliffs of trap, till it sinks away into the hollow through which flows the small stream, the Loggie. From thence it again ascends into a sort of bleak upland, composed chiefly of stoney elevations with a clayey subsoil, interspersed by long stripes and flats of heathery bogs, and wet marshes, covered deep with peat moss.

The highest hill in the parish is that central one of the Bathgate and Torphichen range, called Cairn-naple, or Cairn-paple, which is just included within the angle of its eastern boundary,—its height is stated to be 1498 feet. Towards the north the boundary-line skirts the base of Cockleroi (perhaps *Cachil-righ*, the *King's chair*), which is considerably lower; and includes Bowden-hill, which terminates the range in that direction. From the summit of any of these hills, especially Cachil-righ, may be obtained a prospect scarcely surpassed by any in Scotland for extent, beauty, and magnificence,—reaching from North Berwick Law to the distant cloud-crowned Ben Lomond, and including the view of Edinburgh with its castle, Salisbury Craigs, and Arthur's Seat, the bays and windings of the Forth, “studded with islets and alive with sails,”—the rich and varied scenery of the Fifeshire coast, with all its numerous villages and spires and towns,—the wavy outline and the deep indentations of the massy Ochils, the fertile carse-land of Falkirk, the gray towers of ancient Stirling, and the sky-piercing peaks of the majestic Grampians.

Behind the mansion-house of Craw-hill, on the banks of the river Avon, which are deep, rocky, and wooded, there is a chasm commonly called Wallace's cave; and close adjoining it there is a natural arch in the living rock of very considerable size, within the deep clefts of which there are some beautiful and rather rare varieties of lichens and mosses.

The climate is unquestionably good, though rather cold. The air is pure and bracing, particularly in the eastern division of the parish; and even in the more upland and moorish districts westward, there are no such exhalations as to be noxious to the health of the inhabitants.

Hydrography.—There are only two mineral springs deserving of notice as such. At the westward base of the Kipps-hill there is one said to be impregnated with vitriol. On the estate of Wallhouse, and about a mile west from the village, there is a chalybeate spring, which formerly enjoyed some reputation as a tonic, but has fallen into neglect, so that even its position is scarcely known. Several other springs exhibit traces of mineral impregnation, but of no very decided character.

On the very boundary of the Cathlaw estate, nearly due east from the Preceptory, there is a very strong spring of deliciously tasted pure water, called St John's well; to which it is said the Knights of St John used to go in days of yore for a morning draught. Whether its virtues were medicinal, or of a more hallowed character, tradition cannot exactly inform us; but still its waters are thought to possess peculiar healing powers, if not still rarer qualities, which operate in various cases as a charm. Near it stood a stone, in some way connected with the well, and on the very limits of the parish.

There is a beautiful little lake at Lochcote, about a mile to the north-east of the village, in the hollow formed by the surrounding hills of Bowden, Cachil-righ, and Kipps. It covers about 22 English acres. Formerly it discharged its surplus waters by a stream from its north-west end, which formed a singular pool, called the eel-ark. From this pool it ran under ground for more than 200 yards, when it again burst upwards like a strong spring, and continued its course into the Avon. This romantic little lake was drained by a late proprietor, who thereby lost a great natural beauty, and gained a few acres of deep, ill-reclaimed, and not half arable marsh. The present proprietor (Joseph Hume, Esq.) has, with great taste, determined to restore the lake, considering a beautiful sheet of water more truly valuable as an ornament to his elegant mansion on its margin, than could be the acquisition of as much muddy soil and rank vegetation.

The little river Avon flows along the north boundary of Torphichen, dividing it from the parish of Muiravonside. The Loggie is a much smaller stream than the Avon, into which it falls. It forms the boundary between Torphichen and Bathgate for several miles; but though its channel is considerably deep, its course is not adorned with scenery of particular interest.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The most peculiar geological features of the parish are to be found in the east end of it, skirting

the Bathgate range of hills. That range is chiefly composed of trap-rock as its central mass, with successive strata of limestone, carboniferous shale, coal, sandstone, and thick beds of clay, gravel, and other alluvial deposits. The ridge seems to have been produced by igneous agency, upheaving the superincumbent strata, bursting through them in the centre, in some places overlying them, in others rending them asunder and thrusting them aside till it displayed the disturbing material in various aspects, occasionally in that of columnar trap. The dip of the superincumbent strata is accordingly very steep, in some places almost perpendicular, in others a foot in five or six, and gradually diminishing till it reach the level of the adjoining country. The picturesquely undulating range of the Torphichen hills, already described, is also composed of trap; and where it has been decomposed around their sides and bases, or in hollows, it has formed a peculiarly rich and fertile soil, though of no great depth. On the Hilderston hills, on the west side of the Bathgate ridge, there is a coal mine, the mouth of which must be at least 800 feet above the level of the sea. This height has been manifestly caused by the upheaving of the ridge where the trap forced its way from beneath, raising in its passage the superincumbent strata, as the mine is worked in from the top where the coal *crops out*. Nearly opposite, on the eastern shoulder of the same hill, there is a limestone quarry, in which many shells are found, chiefly ammonites, some of which are unusually large. Some fossil fishes are also said to have been found. A coal mine has been recently opened in the hollow between the Kipp hills, the Torphichen wavy range, and the continuation of the Bathgate range, running through Cathlaw estate. The coal bed seems to lie in a kind of basin formed by these ridges, and can scarcely be expected to be very productive or permanent from the nature of the situation.

In Bowden hill is another limestone quarry, or rather mine, entered by a horizontal shaft in the side of the hill, and chambered out regularly, leaving columns to support the roof of what is becoming an immense cave.

Along the course of the Loggie burn there runs a chain of conical sand-hills, of such a regular figure, as to have led to the erroneous popular belief that they are artificial, and have been raised at some distant period as monumental mounds. They are, however, obviously natural, being composed entirely of fine sea-sand, washed together into regular heaps and banks by the action

of water, at some period indefinitely remote, when the whole circumjacent country had not yet emerged from the depths of the ocean.

In the limestone quarry first mentioned, there was formerly found a considerable quantity of silver ore, whence the place is still called the silver mine; but the ore was not found to be either sufficient in quantity or rich enough in quality, to repay the expense of working it; consequently that has been abandoned.

There was also a coal mine on the property of Bridgecastle, about two miles and a-half west from Torphichen village, which was wrought several years. Its quality is said not to have been very good, and it also has been neglected for some time, though it is reported that the present proprietor, Captain Hope, R. N., intends to open it again.

Zoology and Botany.—There is nothing known of the zoology of this parish meriting peculiar notice. In botany it is worthy of more attention; less, however, on account of its possession of very rare plants, than because nearly all the varieties of plants indigenous to the lowlands of Scotland, especially to trap districts, may be found in it in a state of great perfection, and even some almost peculiar to the Highlands. On Cathlaw estate the lycopodium is found in great profusion; as also the wild gentian, and some beautiful varieties of the polygala, or milkwort. There are also some fine species of the orchis; and the trap hills of the Torphichen ridge abound with the common wild heart's ease in greater profusion than can be seen almost any where else. There are also some rather rare kinds of mosses and lichens found on the moorish districts, and among the rocky banks of the Avon. Some exotic plants have been occasionally found on the Kipps hills, as if naturalized, which are thought to have been brought thither by Sir Robert Sibbald in former days.

The soil seems to be adapted to the growth of timber of almost any kind, as appears from the well-wooded aspect of the district in the eastern division of the parish. There are some fine old trees of considerable magnitude around the mansions of Cathlaw, Lochcote, Wallhouse, and Bridgecastle; and on Cathlaw hill and Hilderston hill there are some young plantations in a very thriving condition,—indicating the possibilities of the district, were a system of planting adopted generally by the proprietors.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Almost the only account of the parish of Torphichen that has

ever been written or printed is to be found in Sir Robert Sibbald's History of the Shire of Linlithgow. There is also a somewhat confused account of it in a brief history of Linlithgowshire by the late John Penney, Esq. Information respecting its history and antiquities may also be gleaned from papers connected with the family records of the different proprietors, particularly the Noble family of Torphichen. As these contain materials of some interest, it has been thought proper to bring them together so as to form a somewhat detailed and connected account.

The civil history of Torphichen is so intimately connected with that of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem, who had their Preceptorate, or chief site and regality there, that a short account of that military and monastic order of knighthood will be that of Torphichen itself. This celebrated order had its origin in the interval between the first and second crusades, when, for the accommodation of the pilgrims who visited the Holy Sepulchre, especially of the sick among them, an hospital was built near the church, and dedicated to St John the Almoner. As they increased in numbers and influence the brothers of the hospital first withdrew from the jurisdiction of the Abbot of the Latin Church, and finally became independent of the Patriarch of Jerusalem. This happened in the year 1104, which may be taken as the date of the commencement of the Order of St John of Jerusalem or Knights Hospitallers, as they are sometimes termed, in contradistinction to the Order of Templars. When Jerusalem fell into the hands of the Saracens the survivors of the Order were compelled to retire into Italy, where they obtained from Pope Innocent IV. a dispensation, absolving them from their original obligation, and permitting them to elect a Grand Master and other subordinate officers for their own government. The same distinguished Order afterwards held possession of the Island of Rhodes, maintaining it against the Turks in the most brave and determined manner, during which they were generally called the Knights of Rhodes. When Rhodes finally was reduced by the Turks in 1522, the knights obtained possession of Malta in 1530, which they defended against their old antagonists the Turks, and in the defence displayed prodigies of valour and military skill.

The renown obtained by the Knights of St John gave rise to several other orders of knighthood; of which the Templars were the chief. The templars, however, excited the indignation of Philip IV. of France by their licentiousness, or his cupidity by

their wealth ; and were suppressed in the year 1312. Previous to their downfall they had acquired extensive possessions in every kingdom in Europe, which were either seized upon by the sovereign, or transferred to the kindred order of St John. In this manner, the lands of both orders came to belong to the Johannites ; though in many instances they retained the name of Temple lands, from the Templars, as being the best known, though not the most ancient and honourable order.

As the Knights of St John had adherents, so they soon acquired possessions in every country in Europe. They were first established in Scotland by David I. or Malcolm IV. in the year 1153. In the charter granted by that monarch there occur the following words : “ Qui in liberam et puram Eleemosynam donavit Fratribus Hospitalis Hierosolymitani unum plenarium toftum in qualibet Burgo totius terræ suæ.” This small foundation was greatly amplified by additional grants from the succeeding kings, especially by Alexander II. and III., Robert II., and the Jameses II., III., and IV. These sovereigns not only confirmed the donations of their predecessors, but by new grants of lands, and by grants of privileges, powers, rights of patronage, and civil immunities, they bestowed at length a competent revenue and territory, and erected the dignities of the order into what was termed the Lordship of St John and Preceptorie of Torphichen. The suppression of the Templars tended greatly to augment the power of the Knights of St John. By a canon of the Council of Vienna, and a bull of Pope Clement VII., the whole lands and possessions of the Knights Templars in Scotland were conferred upon the Knights of St John of Jerusalem. The former had had their chief seat at Temple in Mid-Lothian, the latter at Torphichen, which continued to remain their chief seat or Preceptory. Not only did their new acquisitions, however, retain the designation of Temple lands, but even their own original property came to be called by the same name, which has caused considerable confusion in the attempts that have been made to discriminate between the lands formerly held by the Templars and those held by the Knights of St John.

Several of the preceptors, priors, or grand-masters of Torphichen were men of great talent, and distinguished themselves in the public affairs of the kingdom. Mention is made of one “ Archibaldus Magister de Torphichen,” who is witness to a charter of Alexander, Great Steward of Scotland, in 1252.

In the year 1298, while the heroic Sir William Wallace was Regent of Scotland, he held his head-quarters at the preceptory of Torphichen for some time previous to the battle of Falkirk, as appears from a charter granted by him as regent, conferring some lands at Dundee upon Alexander Scrimgeour, the royal standard-bearer, as a reward for his services, which charter is dated at Torphichen, the 29th day of March 1298.* It would seem that the then preceptor had previously sworn fealty to Edward I. of England, as did so many Scottish nobles, but redeemed his character for patriotism, and afterwards fell at the fatal battle of Falkirk, fought on the 22d of July 1298. His name is given by Rymer as Alexander de Wells.

The next Preceptor of whom particular mention is made was Sir William Knolles, who held the preceptorate about half a century, and was commonly designated Lord St John. He held the offices of Councillor and Treasurer in the reign of James IV., and was killed fighting by the side of that brave but rash monarch at Flodden Field in 1513. He was succeeded by Sir George Dundas, who had been the fellow-student of Hector Boetius at Paris, and was distinguished for his learning. Sir Walter Lindsay was the next preceptor, who also rose to distinction in the kingdom, and was appointed to the office of Justice-General of Scotland in the reign of James V. In Sir David Lindsay's "Testament of Squyer Meldrum," he is mentioned in the following laudatory terms :

* " CHARTA DOMINI GULIELMI WALLACE,

Custodis Scotiæ, Nomine Johannis Baliol Regis cum sigillo ejusdem Johannis.

" Willelmus Walays miles custos regni Scotiæ et ductor exercitus ejusdem nomine preclari principis domini Johannis dei gratia Regis Scotiæ illustris de consensu communitatis ejusdem regni, omnibus probis hominibus dicti regni ad quos presens scriptum pervenerit eternam in Domino salutem. Noverit universitas vestra nos nomine predicti domini nostri regis Scotiæ per consensum et assensum magnatum dicti regni dedisse et concessisse ac ipsa donationem et concessionem presenta carti confirmasse Alexandro dicto Skirnischur sex marcas terras in territorio de Dundee. Scilicet terram ullam quæ vocatur campus superior prope villam de Dundee ex parte boreali cum acris illis in campo occidentali. Et etiam pratum regium in predicto territorio de Dundee cum suis pertinenciis, libertatibus, et asyamentis sine aliquo retinemento pro hamagis predicto domino regi et heredibus suis vel suis successoribus faciendæ, et pro fideli servicio et succursu suo predicto regno impenso portando vexillum regium in exercitu Scotiæ tempore confectionis presentium. Tenend et habend predicto Alexandro et heredibus suis de predicto domino nostro rege et heredibus suis vel suis successoribus libere, quiete, integre, pacifice, et honorifice in perpetuum cum omnibus pertinenciis libertatibus et asyamentis ad dictam terram et pratum prenominaum et prefatum constabularium spectantibus vel quoquo modo spectare valentibus in futurum, faciendæ inde annuatim domino regi et heredibus suis vel suis successoribus, scilicet pro predictis terra, prato, et constabularia cum suis pertinenciis, libertatibus, et asyamentis servicium quod pertinet ad dictam constabulariam tantum pro omnibus quæ de predicti exigi poterunt in futurum. In cujus rei testimonium sigillum commune predicti regni Scotiæ presenti scripto est oppositum, datum apud Torpheichyn xxix die Martii, anno gratiæ millesimo ducentesimo nonagesimo octavo."

“ The wise Sir Walter Lindsay they him call,
Lord of St John and Knight of Torphichen,
By sea, and land a valiant capitane.”

Sir Walter Lindsay died in 1538, and was succeeded by Sir James Sandilands, brother to Sandilands of Calder. During his preceptorate, the Reformation began to stir men's minds, and to break up every thing established on no better foundation than superstition. Sir James Sandilands joined the Reformers, and this, together with the spirit of the times, caused the dissolution of the order of Knights of St John in Scotland. He resigned into the hands of Queen Mary the whole lands and baronies possessed by the preceptors of St John, receiving them again *in feu farm*, to him, his heirs, and assignees, for ever, upon condition of paying to her Majesty 10,000 crowns of the sun,* and 500 merks of annual feu-duty. The charter conveying to him the lands, &c. is dated at Edinburgh the 24th day of March 1563. The most important part of it is as follows :—“ *Dedisse, concessisse, et hæ presenti carta nostra confirmasse, hereditarie dicto Jacobo Domino de Sancta Johanne heredibus suis et assignatis totas et integras terras et Baronias de Torphichen, Listoun, Balintrodo, Tankertoun, Denny, Maryculter, Stennop, Galtua, cum tenentibus et tenendiis et libere tenend : servitiis, advocacionibus et donationibus Ecclesiarum beneficiarum, et Capellanarum omnium et singularium dictarum terrarum et Baronarum cum molendinis, multuris, silvis, piscariis, castris, terribus, fortaliciis,*” &c. It thus appears, that, at the period of the Reformation, the Knights of John were in possession of not less than eight baronies ; and the records of the order contain a document in the hand-writing of Sir Walter Lindsay, which gives the same number and names. The last Preceptor, and first Lord Torphichen, resigned all these into the hands of James VI., with the exception of Torphichen and Liston. The church patronage held by the first Lord Torphichen in right of the order were Torphichen, Inchinnan, Maryculter, Tullaich, and Aboyne.

In the earlier periods of their history, the preceptors of Torphichen sat in councils and Parliament alternately among the higher clergy and the temporal barons. Sir William Knolles was raised permanently to the dignity of a Lord of Parliament by James IV., with the style and title of “ Lord of St John,” or “ Lord St John of Torphichen,” which title descended regularly

* 10,000 crowns of the sun, equal to about L. 1100 Sterling,—a large sum in those days.

to his successors, Sir George Dundas, Sir Walter Lindsay, and Sir James Sandilands. When the charter of the new peerage was granted to the last preceptor, it rendered that rank and title hereditary which had previously been purely official, that is, vested in the office of Prior, Grand Master, or Preceptor of the Order of Knights of St John of Jerusalem, whose chief residence or Preceptory was Torphichen. The office and the seat, therefore, gave the title, which was not vested in or inheritable by, any peculiar family ; and by the charter of 1563, the title was changed into that of Lord Torphichen, but still remained attached to the ancient Preceptory, as a local dignity, though the official dignity had been abolished. The abolition of the official dignity rendered the title hereditary in the preceptory itself, whosoever should be its possessor, and in the family of Sandilands so long as they should retain the possession.

In 1599, James, second Lord Torphichen (nephew of the first,) conveyed the whole Temple and some of the Hospital-lands, with the exception of the baronies mentioned above, to Mr Robert Williamson, writer, and James Tenant of Linhouse. Williamson became sole proprietor in 1604, and afterwards sold them to Sir Thomas Hamilton, subsequently Earl of Melrose and Haddington. This nobleman acquired a charter from the Crown, erecting the lands so obtained into a barony, called the barony of Drem. The act of Parliament ratifying this charter is dated 1614. This barony was disentailed by act of Parliament about the middle of last century, and having passed through the hands of two or three proprietors, appears to have at length become dormant, if not extinct.

In 1633, John, Lord Torphichen, upon the resumption by Charles I., of the superiorities of church lands, felt apprehensive that his rights as successor to a religious order might thereby be prejudiced ; and after petitioning Parliament, obtained an award of his Majesty, following a resolution of the Privy-Council, which was to have the force of an Act of Parliament ; that the resumption, while it included the temple-lands, &c. should be held in no degree to encroach upon the superiorities of the barony of Torphichen, in Linlithgowshire, within “ *that mean portione thereof quharin does subsist the title and dignity of Lords of Parliament, and to quhilk the title of Lord of Parliament is annexit, pertaining to him (Lord Torphichen) presentlie in propertie ;*” but that the same “ *sall remain with him and his successors, according to the tenor of his auld richts and infeftments,* to be holden of his majesty

in feu ferme for payment of the soume of ane hundrethe merks yeirlie." No other title being mentioned in the Act, except the previous charter in 1563, it hence continued the regulating one, to be in force as far as respected the remainder of the property which had been still retained by the family. This "*mean portione*," wherein the title "*subsists*," is probably the central part of the barony, including especially the preceptory and its immediate demesne lands, which was, perhaps, the most ancient part of the patrimony of the knights.

The earldom of Arundel in England is held, it appears, by a similar tenure, the title being vested in the castle itself; and this too was ratified in the reign of Charles I.

The lands constituting the barony of Torphichen have been gradually sold, till little more remains in the possession of the Noble family than probably what constituted the original patrimony at first bestowed upon the founders of the Order in Scotland, nearly 700 years ago; but the portion which remains is that in which the title is vested, lying around and adjacent to the preceptory. It would appear from a claim given in by John Gillon of Wallhouse, November 10th 1747, that the lands of Wallhouse, South and North Hilderstons, Torphichen mill, and other lands, were originally held under the lordship of St John, as he mentions that they formed part of the regality of Torphichen, and that he had acquired the superiority thereof, and right of regality by purchase from James, Lord Torphichen. Mr Gillon states he had procured a crown charter of resignation under the great seal, on the 22d of June 1733, upon which infestment followed on the 29th of the same month. He claimed L.300 as the value, but his claim was dismissed.

The lands of Lochcote, which are said to have belonged to the same lordship of St John, enjoy the peculiar privilege of paying no teind, apparently on the assumption of having been churchlands.

Eminent Characters, &c.—Some of the most eminent characters connected with the parish by birth or residence have been already mentioned in the enumeration of the most distinguished preceptors of Torphichen. Of these, the last preceptor, Sir James Sandilands, occupies the most prominent position, in consequence of the part which he took in the Reformation. This distinguished man, having left no family, was succeeded in his honours by the son of his elder brother, Sandilands of Calder; and as Calder

House had been long the patrimonial residence of the family, it continued to be that of the Lords Torphichen, in consequence of which, the preceptory and its appurtenances were comparatively neglected, and allowed to fall into decay. Some portions of the original barony, however, came into the possession of cadets of the family, of which perhaps the most noted was Sandilands of Hilderston.

During the stormy period of the Covenanters, the family of Sandilands adhered to the principles of their ancestors; and both struggled in defence of, and suffered with, the persecuted Church of Scotland. William Sandilands, brother of the fourth Lord Torphichen, and tutor to his nephew, the fifth Lord, was laird of Hilderston. He married the second daughter of Cunningham of Cunninghamhead, in Ayrshire, a gentleman distinguished, even in that period, for his sincere piety. Hilderston and his lady were both remarkable for their attachment to the Presbyterian principles of the Scottish Church; and their mansion-house at Hilderston was often the hospitable resort of the persecuted Covenanters. There Mr Blackadder and others often held what were termed conventicles, and heavy fines were on that account imposed upon the family. Walter Sandilands, his son, married the heiress of Westport, near Linlithgow, and assumed the name and arms of Hamilton of Westport. He retained the same attachment to Protestant and Presbyterian principles which had characterized the family, from the days of their illustrious ancestor, Sir James Sandilands, the last preceptor, and the personal friend of John Knox. (See Wodrow, Vol. iii. p. 441.) This branch of the Sandilands family is now represented by Colonel John Ferrier Hamilton of Westport and Cathlaw.

It may be mentioned, that in the same troublous times, the regality of Torphichen is among those stated to have fallen into the hands of his Majesty, in consequence of their possessors refusing to take the test; and Lord Livingstone is recommended as the person to whom it should be given, probably on account of his want of principle and subserviency to that corrupt and tyrannous court, which had honoured Lord Torphichen by its dislike and its feeble enmity. The then minister of Torphichen was also ejected from his charge for refusing to take the same test; as appears by a report of the Committee for public affairs, offering it as their opinion that missives should be sent to the patrons of parishes vacant by the ministers' refusal of the test, of which mis-

sives one is directed to Lord Torphichen for the parish. (See Wodrow, Vol. iii. pp. 360—1.)

Sir Robert Sibbald, an eminent Scottish naturalist and antiquarian, was connected with this parish by becoming proprietor of the estate of Kipps, in right of his mother, heiress of the family of Boyd, its former proprietors. He resided for some time at Kipps; and there are still to be found some proofs of his taste in some kinds of exotic plants introduced by him, and now growing wild on the lands.

The Rev. John Bonnar is well known as one of the marrow-men; and subsequently as one of the ministers who assisted at the remarkable revival of religion which took place at Cambuslang in 1742, at which time he was still minister of Torphichen. It is stated, that he was then very old, and so infirm that his journey to Cambuslang occupied him three days, though the distance is not more than eighteen miles. Although none are now living who enjoyed his ministrations, his memory is still held in the highest respect and veneration. It appears, also, that Mr Gillon, of Wallhouse, ancestor of the present W. D. Gillon, Esq. was at that time an elder in Torphichen, and officiated as such at Cambuslang.

Mr Henry Bell, celebrated as being the person who first successfully applied the steam-engine as a propelling power, for the purpose of river and canal navigation in Britain, was a native of Torphichen. In a little spot of level alluvial ground, formed by the Avon, in a bend of that river, near Torphichen bridge, and sheltered by steep banks, may still be seen the ruined side walls, and the solitary gable of the cottage in which he was born. A few years before his death he paid a visit to the secluded scene of his infancy, with a view, it is said, of purchasing the spot, and erecting another cottage, and in that calm retreat terminating a career, the honours and rewards of which had been, as too often happens, but ill proportioned to its usefulness. He did not, however, prosecute his intention, and the solitary ruin remains his melancholy memorial.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are, the Right Honourable Lord Torphichen; W. D. Gillon, Esq. of Wallhouse; Colonel Ferrier Hamilton of Cathlaw; David Pringle, Esq. of Kipps; Joseph Hume, Esq. of Lochcote; Captain David Hope of Bridgecastle; William Wardrop, Esq. of Bridgehouse; Peter Sawers, Esq.; R. C. Buchanan, Esq.; and Sir Thomas Living-

stone, Bart. of Bedlormie. There are in all 37 proprietors, of whom 25 possess lands of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest entry in the parochial registers bears the date of 1650. Since that time they have been pretty regularly kept, though they are somewhat meagre in their details. They amount, at present, to five volumes of no great size. There are two volumes of acts of Assembly from 1690 to 1733; but from that time till recently these acts have not been regularly obtained.

Antiquities.—The chief object of interest, in an antiquarian point of view, is the Preceptory, or chief seat of the Knights of St John of Jerusalem. It would appear, from the date of the original charter, 1153, that the preceptory was founded in that year, as it was the first property held by the Knights in Scotland, and continued to be their chief seat. Its site was well chosen for both strength and beauty; at the base of the picturesque range of the Torphichen hills, on the edge of a piece of marshy ground which furnished water to fill a moat twenty feet wide, by which the building itself, and about a Scotch acre of land, were surrounded, of which moat the course may still be distinctly traced. The upper part of the building commanded an extensive prospect towards the Frith of Forth in the direction of Falkirk and Stirling; as also, the upper range of the Ochils, and the summits of the Grampians. It appears to have been built, as most religious structures were, in the form of a cross, of which nothing but the *transept*, or cross-beam, necessarily the smaller division of that figure, with a tower at one angle containing a spiral staircase, are now remaining. The walls of the *nave*, or main part of the fabric have long disappeared entirely, but its foundation may still be traced so as to give some idea of its original dimensions. The transept, or, as it is commonly called, the choir, still remains almost entire. It is about 72 feet long by 26 broad; (inside 66 by 20, the walls being above 3 feet thick;) the nave was about 112 feet long. The interior is composed of three lofty arched domes, supported by massive yet handsome Gothic columns, 20 feet high before the spring of the arch; of these the central dome and its columnar shafts are distinguished by their symmetry and simple grandeur, and the key of the vault itself, in the central dome, being formed of an open horizontal arch, or rather complete circle, at right angles with the arches of the vault, and sustained merely by their mutual and equal pressure 30 feet above the level of the floor, the effect is peculiar-

ly striking and elegant. In each end of the transept is a beautiful Gothic window, formed by arched divisions and tracery of stonework, part of which has yielded to the dilapidations of time. Owing to the marshy nature of the ground, the whole structure seems to have been built on strong piles of oak, driven deeply into the yielding soil, and thus forming a perfectly secure foundation. Portions of these piles have been occasionally dug up in excavating graves, and found to be not only firm and entire, but even of a hardness and compact consistency little short of black marble, such has been the effect of the antiseptic qualities of the morass, together with the pressure which they have so long sustained. A portion of the ground, formerly inclosed within the moat, still bears the name of "the Knights' Garden," although it has long been cultivated by the plough alone, and yielded no other produce than that common to the adjacent fields.

Notwithstanding the entire disappearance of the nave, the larger portion of the original building, there are no records, nor even traditions of its having been demolished by any sudden burst of popular violence. From any such fate it may have been preserved by its falling entire into the hands of Sir James Sandilands, who could have no interest in its destruction, and whose influence with the Reformers would be sufficient for its preservation. But as Calder House very soon became the chief residence of the Lords Torphichen, it was neglected, and, falling into decay, was used as a quarry, whence stones might be procured for any necessary purpose. That such was the case is evident from the fact, that many houses in the village are built entirely of hewn stones, such in size, form, and apparent age as those of the portion which still remains standing, while the greater part of the stone walls by which the adjoining fields are subdivided are composed of exactly similar materials. In this manner have the walls of the nave been carried piece-meal at length entirely away. There was also, according to tradition, another house of some size and unknown antiquity, built close to one angle of the transept, a portion of which was standing about eighty years ago, as the writer of this was informed by an old woman who died in 1837 at the age of eighty-nine. It was said to have been a separate tenement, built for the accommodation of the knights when their numbers had increased beyond what the preceptory could conveniently contain. It communicated with the transept by a private door, which is still visible, though strongly built up. While the lovers of antiquity must deplore the dila-

pidations by which this ancient and very remarkable building has suffered so severely, it must be gratifying to know, as it is to record, that it will be preserved henceforth from any such violence and desecration. Its present Noble proprietor, Lord Torphichen, has with great good taste and judgment recently protected it from the wasting ravages of time and the weather by roofing it completely anew, and closing the rents and chinks which here and there had deeply scarred its hoary and venerable walls; so that remote ages may continue to contemplate the sole remaining monument of what was once a mistaken, yet a very gallant Order of vowed and consecrated warriors, many of whose exploits shed lustre on the darkness of the middle-ages, like the path of a meteor through the gloom of a lowering sky.

In the interior of the transept or choir, at its south end, beneath one of the windows, is a curious arch, in the form of a canopy, about six feet in span, within which it is said the bodies of the knights were laid before interment, and during the performance of the funeral rites; and close beside it is a font for holy water. There is an antiquely carved stone, built into a comparatively modern part of the inner wall on the west side, on which the following inscription may with difficulty, and perhaps also with some uncertainty, be read: "Gualterus Lindesay, Justiciarius Generalis de Scotland, et Principalis Preceptor Torphicensis, 1538." The inscription is in what is termed the *black letter* characters, and is embarrassed by several abbreviations; but the above seems to be its true reading, as far as can be made out.

In the churchyard stands a short square stone pillar, with the outline of a St John's or Maltese cross rudely carved on it. From this as from a centre was measured in ancient times the sanctuary of Torphichen, which gave, at least, temporary protection to any person accused of crimes less than capital. Its limits were marked by four stones, each bearing the St John's Cross, erected as near as might be on the cardinal points, east, west, north and south, each a Scotch mile from the central stone in the churchyard adjoining the preceptory. They all still occupy their original positions.

In a field adjoining the old *peel*-like mansion of Kipps, there are the remains of a Druid circle. The central stone, of a large size, probably the stone of sacrifice, still occupies its original position, but has been split asunder, which tradition says was done by lightning. Some of the stones that formed the circle have

been broken and removed, in order to give place to the plough ; yet the outline of the circle may still be traced, which has been of considerable extent. There is an upright stone at no great distance, connected, probably, with this ancient place of superstitious worship, but of which the express use is not now known.

On the top of Bowden Hill are the traces of a camp, with a deep trench surrounding it. Some antiquarians term it a Roman camp ; but its circular, or rather oval shape, scarcely permits it to be regarded as Roman. Some term it Danish, which is at least equally improbable, as this district was never peculiarly subject to the incursions of those invaders. Tradition gives no information respecting it, and history is equally silent. On the Lochcote Hills, in the immediate vicinity, there is a large cairn, and not far from it have been found several stone-coffins, which, being opened, were found to contain human bones. A very dim and uncertain tradition speaks of some bloody battles having been fought in this neighbourhood, but states nothing as to the date, or the parties between whom the contest was waged.

On the rising grounds above the Loggie Burn, there were several stone coffins found a few years ago, of a very simple construction, being merely thin stones set on edge, to mark the length and breadth of the grave, with one long flat stone-cover laid upon them ; the bottom being merely the natural sand of which that ridge is composed. Nothing is known respecting the time or cause of these sepultures, beyond the usual vague tradition of battles in times immemorial.

Bridge Castle still remains in nearly its original condition, though shorn of its original splendour. It was formerly the seat of the Earls of Linlithgow, and still shows remains of its former importance in a few trees of great age and considerable magnitude, especially in height, by which it is partially surrounded.

About two miles to the south-west, may, by diligent search, be discovered the ruins of the foundation of Ogilface Castle, the seat of the ancient family of De Bosco, Barons of Ogilface. It fell at length into the hands of the Earls of Linlithgow, and upon the fall of that family, ceased to exist as a barony, and was sold in portions to different proprietors, the chief of whom is now R. C. Buchanan, Esq. It must have been a place of some strength, though of no great size, as appears from the outline of the ruins of the foundation, as far as that can be still traced.

Bedlormie has also been a place of considerable antiquity and

some strength. Its general structure resembles that of the Border peels, consisting of a single square tower, the under storey of which is constructed with a vault or stone arch, nearly fire-proof, for greater security against sudden and desperate assaults. Such is also the structure of Kipps, on a smaller scale.

Modern Buildings.—Of these there are none of any peculiar importance, except perhaps Wallhouse, the seat of W. D. Gillon, Esq., and that at present being built by Mr Hume at Lochcote, which, when finished, will be an ornament to the district. There are of mills one for oats alone, one for oats and barley, two lint-mills, and two woollen-mills, all generally well employed.

III.—POPULATION.

The census of 1841 may be taken, as giving an accurate view of the parish at present :

Population residing in villages,—Torphichen, 430 ; Blackridge, 94, .	524
the country, about	893
	<hr/>
	1417

The average of births, deaths, and marriages cannot be exactly ascertained, owing to the migrations to, and connections with other adjoining parishes, but may be estimated at about

Births, 24 ; deaths, 16 ; marriages, 5, annually.	
The average number of persons under 15 years of age, . . .	505
betwixt 15 and 30,	395
30 and 50,	259
50 and 70,	143
above 70,	68

There are no resident nobility, and very few families of independent fortune residing in the parish. The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L.50 and upwards, 25.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land, about L. 1 per acre ; average rent of grazing, L. 3 per ox or cow per annum.

Wages.—Rates of labour average 1s. 8d. per day summer ; 1s. 3d. winter for men, and for women about 10d. summer and winter.

Live-Stock.—The breeds of sheep and cattle are of the common kind. A few of the Ayrshire cattle have been introduced, and some improvement in that respect is taking place. The chief improvement in agriculture of which the district is susceptible, and which indeed it requires, is draining, much of the land being very wet. Some progress is making in this branch also ; but the want of resident landholders, and of disposable capital, must tend greatly to impede agricultural improvement. The general duration of leases

is fourteen or nineteen years. The farms are not large ; and the style of farm-building corresponds ; some of them, however, are of a rather superior order.

Quarries.—There are two limestone, one sandstone, and two granite quarries ; and there was once a quarry or mine of iron-stone on the bank of the Avon, near Torphichen bridge, but it has not been wrought for some years. The two limestone quarries of Cathlaw and Bowden have already been noticed, as also the coal mine on Hilderston, on Kipps, and on Bridge-Castle estate. It is said also that coal may be obtained on the Bridgehouse property.

Produce.—The average amount of raw produce raised in the parish has not been ascertained, and cannot be stated.

Manufactures.—The only branches of manufacture in the parish, if such they can be termed, are two flax mills, and one mill for the manufacture of wool, part of which is wrought into shawls.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—There is no market-town in the parish ; the nearest is that of Bathgate, distant from Torphichen village about two miles and a-half. Linlithgow is little more than four miles and three-quarters distant. There are two villages in the parish, Torphichen and Blackridge.

Means of Communication.—The means of communication enjoyed by the parish are, the turnpike-road from Linlithgow to Bathgate, about two miles and a-half of which is within Torphichen ; that from Linlithgow to Glasgow by Armadale, about one-and a-half of which is within Torphichen ; and about three miles of the middle road from Edinburgh to Glasgow, passing through the west end of the parish. The parish roads are kept in general in a very good condition ; and are upheld by an assessment upon the land at the rate of L. 2 each ploughgate, which is estimated at seventy acres.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated close beside the village of Torphichen, its eastern gable resting on the ancient preceptory. It is within about a mile of the east end of the parish, consequently is by no means convenient for a very large extent towards the west. As, however, the eastern district is the most populous, the church is tolerably convenient for nearly two-thirds of the population. It was built in 1756. It affords accommodation for about 450. Being allocated to the different proprietors of land and their tenants, its sittings are free to such persons,

but cannot be let to any others, except by private bargain between the parties themselves. There are about fifty-eight sittings not allocated, in what are called the table-seats, where, consequently, the poor may sit free. The manse was built above 100 years ago, and enlarged about thirty years ago, since which time it has obtained no repairs. The glebe is above eleven acres, only six of which are arable. It lets in grass for about L. 13. The stipend is L. 150, of which L. 25, 7s. is granted by the Exchequer.

There has been a new church built by subscription at Blackridge. It was opened for public worship on the first Sabbath of June 1838. A minister has been recently chosen for it, who is to be supported by the seat-rents and collections, by which it is hoped that about L. 60 will be obtained. It cannot yet be stated what number of people may attend the church at Blackridge, as it is not yet in full operation, consequently the respective numbers of Churchmen and Dissenters in that district cannot be stated. The attendance at the parish church is almost equal to the amount of accommodation afforded by the church, and is very regular. The average amount of communicants is 350. Average church collections for charitable purposes, L. 25 ; for religious purposes, L. 12.

Education.—There are three schools in the parish, of which two are parochial, and one unendowed. The branches of instruction generally taught in each are, reading, writing, arithmetic, mensuration, book-keeping, and rarely Latin. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster at Torphichen is the maximum ; at Blackridge L. 29 of a mortification and 100 merks.

Libraries.—There are two parochial libraries in the parish, one at Torphichen, the other at Blackridge, both of which are pretty well supplied with books, well selected, and carefully perused.

Friendly Societies.—There is one Friendly Society.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 18 ; the sum allotted to each varies considerably, but the average, including house-rents, is about L. 4, 14s. 6d. per annum, or about 1s. 9d. weekly. The annual amount of church-door collections is about L. 25 ; from sums mortified, or otherwise disposed at interest, there is obtained about L. 25 ; and the heritors have assessed themselves voluntarily to the amount of about L. 35 per annum, making the sum annually expended for the maintenance of the poor about L. 85. It is to be regretted, that the lofty and generous reluctance to receive parochial aid, formerly characteristic of the poor, is declining, and

also, that, instead of being received as a boon, it is beginning to be demanded as a right,—than which nothing can be more destructive to genuine charity. This is to be ascribed chiefly to the non-residence of the proprietors, which diminishes the church-door collections, dries up the springs of private charity, drains away the local wealth, and, abating the demand for labour, keeps wages low, and prevents the labouring classes from rising above the pressure of necessity, and the near approach of poverty.

April 1843.

PARISH OF CARRIDEN.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. DAVID FLEMING, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE modern name of the parish is *Carriden*. In Gildas' "De excidio Britanniae," A. D. 560, it is written *Kair Eden*. *Foredun*, the Scottish historian, who lived about the year 1308, calls the village that was in existence in his days *Karedin*; and in Richard of Cirencester's History of Roman Britain, written about 1338, the orthography is *Carridden*. The word is understood to be of Celtic or ancient British derivation, and to denote the relative position of the then existing village as a military station, or the specific character of its locality. Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, represents it as being the same with *Caer Adin* or *Eden*, which, in the British language of Roman times, signifies *fort on the wing*, or *projection like a wing*.

Extent, &c.—According to Forrest's survey of the county, furnished in 1817, the length of the parish from east to west is 3 statute miles, and nearly 2 furlongs; and the breadth from north to south wants half a furlong of 2 miles; the number of square miles which it contains being 424. It is bounded on the east, by the parish of Abercorn; on the west, by the parish of Borrowstounness; on the north, by the Forth; and on the south, by the parish of Linlithgow; presenting the appearance of an irregular four-sided figure, the longest side stretching along the shores of the Forth.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface is very unequal, rising from the shore by a quick ascent, with a varied undulating form for about a mile, and then in general declining to the south. The most elevated ground lies towards the south-western part of the parish, near its junction with Linlithgow and Bo'ness, forming part of the Irongath * hills, or what is vulgarly named *Glow-owre-em*, and subsiding in an eastern direction by a gradual declivity. The highest point is 519 feet above the level of the sea, or high water of spring tides. There are no natural cavities; but the ground has been excavated to a considerable extent in the north-west of the parish for coals and ironstone, in consequence of which, by the settling of the superincumbent strata in the old wastes, the surface was at one place broken into a number of small concave cisterns, which in the course of agricultural improvement have been filled up and levelled; and within the last twenty or thirty years, several instances have occurred in different places of the ground suddenly giving way and leaving large holes in the open field. The coast along the Forth, including its windings, extends to about three miles and a-half, having, through a considerable portion of the line, at high water mark, a margin of sand and calcareous mixture several feet broad, thence stretching out to low water-mark, for several hundred yards, in a sleetly flat, composed of alluvial soil, with more or less of sand, and showing here and there a small bank formed of drifted oyster shells. Of late, owing to the encroachments of the sea, the sandy margin has been undergoing a change, and becoming more of a rough stony description. Occasionally there is an appearance of rock. At two places the land points into the Frith,—the one, called Bridgeness, near the western extremity,—the other forming the eastern extremity of the parish, named Blackness, a rather remarkable rocky promontory on which Blackness Castle is situated. Within a few yards of the shore the ground rises into a steep bank, ranging from the junction with Bo'ness parish, till it falls into a gentle acclivity near the church, to the east of which it again becomes more abrupt, and so continues along the whole coast eastward, till it loses itself in the point of Blackness.

There is no good bathing-ground along the coast except at Blackness, though not a few families from different quarters inland

* Otherwise called Airncoth. Sibbald says there is a tradition, that a battle was fought there between the Romans and the natives under Argadus, and thence the hill took the name of Argad.

annually resort to the shore of the Frith, for the benefit of bathing, and of the sea air. It is difficult, except at high tides, to reach a sufficient depth of water without wading to a considerable distance, and the footing in the soft yielding sleet is by no means agreeable; besides, the water is not a little muddy, especially when it is in any degree agitated: and, sometimes, considerable quantities of peat moss in large coherent masses or in a pulpy state are deposited on the shore, which has been floated down the river in the process of clearing the extensive moss fields at Blair-Drummond and other places in its vicinity.

Meteorology.—The prevailing winds are from the south-west and west. Next to these in frequency is the east wind. The severest storms of snow are commonly from the east and north-east. The following table gives the number of days in each month during which the wind blew from any particular point of the compass in 1834:

	N.	N. E.	E.	S. E.	S.	S. W.	W.	N. W.
January, .	0	1	4	0	1	15	10	0
February, .	0	0	0	0	2	23	9	0
March, .	2	0	1	0	0	16	11	1
April, .	2	4	7	4	0	3	9	1
May, .	1	1	8	1	4	9	7	0
June, .	0	0	1	1	3	12	11	2
July, .	1	3	13	1	1	7	5	0
August, .	0	1	8	1	3	9	9	0
September, .	0	4	8	0	1	9	8	0
October, .	0	1	0	0	1	17	6	6
November, .	0	0	6	0	0	14	8	3
December, .	0	0	2	0	1	17	11	0
Total, .	6	15	57	8	17	151	98	19
		Easterly, 80.		Westerly, 262				

The average height of the thermometer and barometer for each month in the same year stands as under:

	Therm.	Barom.		Therm.	Barom.
January, .	40.06	29.1	July, .	61.16	29.6
February, .	39.32	29.4	August, .	59.58	29.45
March, .	41.12	29.5	September, .	54.43	29.35
April, .	44.43	29.45	October, .	47.96	28.85
May, .	53.32	29.7	November, .	42.43	29.5
June, .	57.90	29.15	December, .	40.29	29.8

Average for the year, thermometer, 48.50; barometer, 29.35. The hottest days were, July 4th and 7th, when the thermometer stood at 66°. On August 17th, the notation was 65°, and on July 2d, 3d, 22d, August 2d, 14th, 15th, 16th, September 19th, and 20th, it was 64°. The greatest degree of cold was in December 19th, when the mercury indicated 29°; the next coldest days were December 18th and 20th, the degree being 30°, and

next to these were January 29th, November 23d, December 23d and 27th, the mercury standing at 32°. The lowest range of the barometer was on December 1st, when it showed 28.08, the wind being south-west, and the thermometer 44°; the highest range was on December 23d, being 31.01, when the wind blew from the west, and the thermometer stood at 32°. The observations to which the foregoing tables and statements refer, it may be proper to add, were taken about a mile from the coast, at a slight elevation above the sea.

The climate is in general dry, pleasant, and healthful, though variable.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth bounds the parish on the north, to the extent of about three miles in a straight line, the breadth at high water averaging about four miles, with an average depth of 9½ fathoms in the channel. The water is never very transparent, and when in a state of commotion, it is turbid and muddy, of a lightish brown tinge, from the quantity of alluvial matter which it holds in solution. Its saltness is considerably diluted by the fresh current descending from above, but is nevertheless of quality sufficient to furnish a productive material for the manufacture of excellent salt.

There are two small streams that traverse the parish, both of very insignificant dimensions, viz. Blackness burn, which rises in the Irongath hills, and after running eastward, joins the Forth on the east side of the castle of Blackness, where it separates the parish from Abercorn; and Carriden burn, which passes into the Frith on the west side of Carriden House, to the situation of which it adds considerable attractions by the natural beauty of its banks, having formerly served as an outlet to a small loch on the estate of Grange, that has been drained and is now under cultivation.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The general characteristic of the mineral structure is of the coal formation. Passing along the coast from the westward, we fall in with trap or hard whinstone at Cowdenhill, Bridgeness, and Cuffabouts. A little farther to the east, between the old manse and Burnfoot, there is a bed of light grey sandstone, which dips to the south-west with a declination of 11°. About a quarter of a mile onward, shale and indurated clay, with some bands of calcareous sandstone, appear at the surface within the sea mark, the dip continuing to the south-west. A dislocation in the strata appears to have taken place about a mile farther eastward, the rock consisting of clay sandstone in thin layers, and lying

in an opposite direction to the north-east. About 400 yards west of the village of Blackness, a bed of calcareous ironstone crops out on the beach, dipping into the sea in the same direction, which, when carefully prepared, forms a hydraulic cement of a very superior quality; for which purpose it was wrought some years ago, and is again in contemplation of being wrought. This stratum is covered with a strong shale, otherwise called *blea*, varying in thickness from 1 to 20 feet, interspersed with balls of clay ironstone, the under layer being of the kind called alum shale, and separated from the upper by a thin band of ironstone. The alum shale was formerly employed in the manufacture of soda, but the work has been lately discontinued and dismantled. About twenty yards farther into the sea, a freestone rock of a rough granular texture rises to the surface, and runs in the same direction as the cement stone, forming the covering towards the castle hill, which consists entirely of trap rock, declining by $12\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$, also to the north-east. In the interior, to the south-west of the parish, trap is chiefly to be met with.

There are many seams of coal in the parish, some of which have been wrought at their crops or outbursts, centuries ago. The coal-field that is in the western division of the parish is supposed to extend across the Frith, and to be connected with the coal formation in the opposite district in the county of Fife. The strata are known to the depth of 135 fathoms, having been passed by the miners in sinking pits and other operations in the coal mines. The deepest seam that is known is the *carsy* coal, rising to the north-east along the sea shore. This seam and the smithy seam come out to the surface a short distance to the east of Burnfoot. The foul coal and red coal take on to the west of the road leading to Linlithgow; the western main coal is only in the south-west of the parish, as there is not sufficient cover for this seam to the east and north. This coal field passes through the south-west boundary of the parish into the parishes of Borrowstownness and Linlithgow. In the southern division of it, the strata dip nearly north, with a declination of one foot in three. In approaching the north, the dip gradually comes round more to the west; in the middle of the field, the dip is north-west, with a declination of 4 in 6 to 1 in 10.

The following is a journal of the strata passed through in sinking the engine or mangle, and the burn pits, which are the same in both, with a slight variation in the proportions :

	Fath.	Ft.	In.		Fath.	Ft.	In.
Diluvial soil, yellow clay with				Parrot coal, bad quality,	0	1	6
sand,	4	5	0	Blea,	0	3	0
Sandstone,	0	2	0	Foul coal,	1	0	9
Splinty coal,	0	2	3	Blea with sandstone bands,	2	2	9
Sandstone,	3	0	6	Hard sandstone,	4	1	10
Blea with ironstone bands and				Rough sandstone,	4	4	9
balls,	3	4	2	Blea,	0	1	1
Sandstone,	7	2	4	Eastern main coal,	0	4	2
Blea,	1	1	10	Sandstone,	1	0	0
Western main coal, having two				Blea,	1	4	9
bands of stone through it,	3	0	0	Sandstone,	0	2	7
Hard whinstone,	2	4	3	Blea,	0	3	0
Blea,	5	0	8	Coal,	0	0	7
Hard whinstone,	8	4	5	Sandstone,	0	3	10
Soft whinstone,	1	3	0	Blea,	1	2	5
Redstone band, quartz rock,	0	3	9	Sandstone,	2	4	7
Soft whinstone,	1	1	5	Blea,	3	3	6
Hard whinstone,	0	3	0	Smithy coal,	0	2	11
Sandstone,	8	0	6	Sandstone,	0	4	0
Red coal,	0	2	11	Blea,	1	1	7
Sandstone,	2	0	11	Calcareous ironstone,	0	1	6
Blea with sandstone bands,	8	3	9	Blea,	0	1	11
Sandstone,	1	5	10	Carsy coal,	0	1	4
Blea,	2	2	0				

There are several dikes that throw the strata up, partly to the south, but generally to the north. These dikes vary from one to twenty fathoms, running chiefly from south-east to north-west, and may be termed slips rather than dikes, as they seldom occasion any rise, and merely disjoin the metals without producing much alteration in their relative position. To the east of Burnfoot, after passing the crop of the Carsy coal, it is thought that no coal is to be found. No attempt by boring has been made to ascertain what minerals exist beneath the surface; but it is supposed that the strata lie beneath the coal measures. It is a curious fact, that in a district where so many seams of coal occur, whinstone should be found so abundant. The Irongath hills consist of hard whinstone, resting on the coal strata; nor does it present itself only in crops on the tops of eminences, but is found in regular seams between, and sometimes even in actual contact with the coal. In these hills, there is a bed of coal, varying from one to eight or ten feet in thickness, which has whinstone both for its roof and pavement; and between the western main coal and the red coal, the seam of whinstone is about 70 feet thick. The fossil remains that have been found in the coal formation consist of reeds of different kinds. Shells and impressions of leaves are also of more or less frequent occurrence; and a few years ago, the workmen fell in with a beautiful specimen of that curious extinct genus of fossil plants, the lepidodendron, but, un-

fortunately, only a small fragment of the interesting relic was recovered. Ironstone appears to have been wrought in former times to some extent to the west of the church.

The alluvial deposits in the west part of the parish, near the shore, consist of sea sand and shells resting on blue clay and mud, the clay resting on the coal formation; and in the south-west, there is found yellow brick clay, and yellow clay with sand and gravel. The soil is of all varieties, from that of a light sandy texture to the richest loam and heavy clay. The subsoil is also very various, in some places being free and open, in others of a rocky description, and in others tilly and retentive. The boulders that have been met with, are trap, but different from that of the neighbourhood, and must have come from a distance, their weight varying from three or four cwt. to four or five tons.

Botany.—There is but a small portion of the parish covered with wood, and that chiefly ornamental, planted for the most part on declivities and other parts of the surface, inapplicable to the usual purposes of husbandry. The prevalent sorts of trees are the plane, the ash, the elm, the beech, the larch, the oak, and the lime, which are all promiscuously intermixed, and seem all equally adapted to the soil. The full-grown trees, which are but few in number, are chiefly in the neighbourhood of the old mansion-houses; and as a proof of the geniality of the climate and vigour of the soil, it may be stated, that, within a few feet apart from high water mark, immediately below Carriden House, several trees of respectable size and appearance stand strong and healthy in growth, stretching their branches and foliage over the flood at full tide.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Accounts of the Parish.—Several incidental notices of it are to be met with in the works of antiquarian writers, from its being the eastern termination of Antoninus's wall, and the site of other ancient Roman works; but the only detailed accounts, besides the former Statistical Account, with which the writer is acquainted, are to be found in Sir Robert Sibbald's History of Linlithgowshire, Chalmers's Caledonia, and Penney's Topographical and Historical Account of Linlithgowshire.

Historical Events.—The only events of any note on record have a reference to the history of Blackness Castle, an ancient royal fortress, which never appears to have been considered of much importance as a military station, though, by the Act of Union,

it is one of the few ancient fortified places in Scotland that are stipulated to be preserved in a state of repair. In 1548, under the regency of the Earl of Arran, the castle was garrisoned by the French, whom Henry II. sent over under the command of Monsieur D'Essé, to support the pretensions which he derived from the matrimonial alliance that was contemplated between the Princess Mary and his eldest son the Dauphin. When Mary of Guise was promoted to be Regent, the castle again came into the possession of the French; but on the 14th April 1560, it was taken from them by the Sheriff of Linlithgow. In February 1571, it was manned with a garrison by Lord Claud Hamilton, a zealous partizan of the Queen; and it appears to have been held in her interest till February 1573, when it was delivered up to the Regent, the Earl of Morton, along with 50,000 double ducats, being the Queen's dowry; which had been brought from France by James Kirkaldy the preceding month, and with the written documents relative thereto. During the occupancy of the castle by the Queen's troops in April 1572, an inroad was made by them upon the opposite coast, when they "spoulzeit" the towns, and returned to Blackness with considerable booty. On two occasions during the same period, an attempt was made upon the castle by the opposite party. In the same month and year as last mentioned, a ship of war, well furnished with artillery, was sent from Leith to "asseige" the castle, but was driven from the station where she had cast anchor, with great danger, by the violence of the weather; and in the year following, an attack was made to carry the place by surprise, which failed of success by "the garrison being on the alert." *

During the troublous times of the struggle between Presbytery and Episcopacy, the castle appears to have been employed chiefly for the purposes of a state prison, and was the place of confinement where many, who were obnoxious to Government for their known adherence to the principles of religious and civil liberty, were immured. By a decret of the secret council of James VI. in February 1584, the celebrated Andrew Melville was adjudged to be committed to ward in the Castle of Blackness for declining their authority to decide upon the doctrine taught in a public discourse which he had delivered at St Andrews. After the warrant of committal had been served upon him, however, he made his escape to Berwick. During the same year, the clergy in and near

* Diurnal of Occurrents.

Edinburgh, having been apprized that measures prejudicial to "the Kirk and its discipline" were to be resolved on at a meeting of Parliament appointed to be held in May, prevailed upon David Lindsay, minister at Leith, who was most acceptable to the court, to intercede with the king for the interposition of his authority till the Assembly should be heard in the matter; but, when he was entering the gate of the palace in discharge of his commission, he was apprehended and carried to Blackness. There, also, the ministers of Edinburgh were condemned to a temporary confinement in 1587, for refusing to pray for the Queen's deliverance; their refusal being "not simply to pray for her, but for the preservation of her life, as if she had been innocent of the crimes laid to her charge." In 1594, the Earl of Angus, one of the excommunicated Lords, was required to deliver himself up to custody in Blackness, till he should undergo a trial, but refusing, was subsequently with the others found guilty of high treason. From August 1605 till towards the close of the following year, John Welsh, minister of Ayr, who had married John Knox's daughter Elizabeth, along with five other clergymen, were confined in the castle for refusing to condemn the Assembly that had met a short time before at Aberdeen, when they were "banished the king's dominions upon the pain of death." About the same time, a state prisoner of a different description, Gilbert Brown, abbot of New Abbey, "a trafficking and seducing Papist," who had been apprehended by Lord Cranstoun, was lodged for a few days within its walls, till he was transported to the castle of Edinburgh. In 1624, William Rigg, one of the bailies of Edinburgh, was deprived of his office of magistrate, condemned to be imprisoned in Blackness Castle, and fined in L.50,000 Scots for challenging the doctrine taught by the Episcopal clergy. He was charged as being "the chief ringleader of the non-conformitants in Edinburgh, and that he contributed liberally to the printing of books which crossed the course of conformitie." The second Lord Bargeny, (John Hamilton), who was served heir to his father, the first lord, on the 17th October 1662, as the retour in Thomson's Abridgement bears, "in terris dominicalibus de Carriden, Law, et Dyland, cum maneriei loco de Carriden, infra baroniam de Carriden," was a prisoner in the castle in November 1679. In his indictment before the Court of Justiciary, dated 24th February 1680, he is *inter alia* charged with "corresponding with John Welsh," grandson of the former worthy of the name, "a factious trumpet of sedition

and treason, entertaining notour rebels in his house, publicly maintaining the principles of Naphtali, Jus Populi, Lex Rex, and declaring that Scotland would never be well till it wanted Episcopacy, and the present government of the Church was destroyed, as unfit for the nation;" but the trial was never brought on from want of evidence. This nobleman entered heartily into the Revolution, raised a regiment of 600 infantry for the public service in 1689, and died on the 25th May 1693. From an act of the Scots Parliament, we learn, that another sufferer in those times of religious persecution was John Hay of Lochloy, who was in 1683 committed prisoner for the space of thirteen months, "partly in the tolbuith of Edinburgh, and partly in the castle of Blackness." His offence was his hearing the nonconforming ministers.

There are still attached to the castle a governor and lieutenant-governor, but both non-resident. When the former Statistical Account was written, the garrison consisted of 2 gunners, 1 serjeant, 2 corporals, and 12 or 15 privates. Lately, the barrack furniture has been removed, and now the only inmates are an inferior officer, and his wife and daughter.

Eminent Characters.—Colonel James Gardiner, who fell in the battle of Prestonpans in 1745, and whose life, as recorded by Dodridge, affords so impressive and affecting an example of the power of divine grace and the influence of Christian example, was born in this parish at Burnfoot, where are yet pointed out the window of the apartment in which it is alleged that he first drew the breath of life, and two trees, an apple and a pear, said to have been planted by his hands, but which are now in a state of great decay.

In the new churchyard lie interred the remains of Dr John Roebuck, a native of Sheffield in England, and projector of the extensive iron-works at Carron. Besides originating other important establishments connected with the arts in different parts of the island, this ingenious and enterprising individual was united in partnership with the celebrated James Watt in perfecting his improvements upon the steam-engine; and the story is told, that the first time the great engineer succeeded in setting his working model agoing was in Dr Roebuck's dining-room, who was then resident in Kinneil House, as lessee of the Duke of Hamilton's coal and salt-works near Borrowstounness.

The late Sir John Lees, Private Secretary to the Marquis of Townshend when Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, and who afterwards filled the office of secretary to the post-office in Dublin, was in his

youth brought up in this parish. He was eminently successful in life, and affords a memorable example of the distinguished place in society to which the careful cultivation and judicious application of superior talents may raise their possessor. He was created a baronet on the 21st June 1804.

As proprietor of the estate of Carriden, the late Rear-Admiral Sir George J. Hope, K. C. B., became connected with the parish above twenty years ago. He was a very distinguished officer, and highly appreciated in the service for his exemplary discipline, his decision, promptitude, and bravery, and his veneration for religion. He entered the navy at the age of fifteen, in the year 1782, and after passing through the usual gradations, attained the rank of captain in 1793, and that of rear-admiral in the year 1811. During the above period, he commanded the *Romulus*, *Alcmene*, and *Leda* frigates, the *Majestic*, *Theseus*, and *Defence* seventy-fours, being present at the battle of Trafalgar in the ship last named, and served as captain of the Baltic fleet during 1808 and the three subsequent years. In the year 1812, he went to the Admiralty, which he quitted temporarily in the following autumn to bring over the Russian fleet to England during the French invasion of that country. In 1813, he held the chief command in the Baltic, and at its termination returned to the Admiralty, where he remained as confidential adviser to the First Lord till his death on the 2d May 1818; thus closing a life spent in unremitting active service in the discharge of the duties of the highest posts of our naval administration.

Land-owners.—The Duke of Hamilton; the Earl of Hopetoun; Sir James Dalrymple, Bart. of Binns; James Hope, Esq. of Carriden, Post-Captain in the Royal Navy; James S. Cadell, Esq. of Grange; and James Johnstone, Esq. of Straiton, are the principal proprietors of land. Captain Hope holds the place of first heritor; but the greatest amount of superiority and the patronage of the church belong to the Duke of Hamilton.

Parochial Registers.—These are very voluminous, and in a state of excellent preservation. They have, upon the whole, been kept with great regularity. Seven volumes contain the collections and disbursements for the poor, from 1688 down to the present time, without any interruption but between 1708 and 1714. The session minutes occupy six volumes, commencing with the sederunt dated 27th January 1691, and have been regularly recorded, with only two exceptions, the one amounting to about two months, the

other to five years. The registers of baptisms and marriages include four volumes, the first entry of baptism being dated 1687, that of marriage, 1688; and both records coming down to the present day, with only one interval in the former of about seven years, and one of about one year in the latter. The first volume of the session-minutes, among some other items besides the sessional transactions, contains "a just double of the mortification given by the Lairds of Grang, of a house or houses in Muirhouse, for a schoole to the parish of Caridden, 1636," the family name at that time being Hamilton; also, "mortification be Sir William Dick of Braid to Mr Andrew Keir and his successors, ministers of Caridden, of two roodes of land, 1642." Besides these, there are several odd volumes, and a register of deaths and burials; but since 1806, it is very partial and defective.

Antiquities.—The ancient Roman wall, built between the Forth and the Clyde in the reign of the Emperor Antoninus Pius by his Legate Lollius Urbicus, A. D. 140, is, by the almost universal consent of antiquarians, understood to have had its eastern termination in this parish. Three different places have been assigned as the terminating point, Carriden, Walton, and Blackness. In the summary of the ninth chapter of Gildas, "De excidio Britanniae, A. D. 560," it is expressly asserted that the wall commenced at "Kair Eden;"* and this opinion is adopted by Foredun, Richard of Cirencester, Gordon in his "Itinerarium Septentrionale," published in 1726, and by Roy in his "Military Antiquities of the Romans in North Britain," published in 1793. Bede, in his "Eccles. Hist. Gentis Anglorum," written in 737, affirms that the wall began about two miles west of Abercorn,† i. e. Abercorn, at a place called, in the Pictish language, "Peanuahel," and in the English, "Penuelum." If the distance be correct, the "Peanuahel" of the Picts, and "Penuelum" of the English, must correspond with Blackness, which is exactly two miles from Abercorn. In accordance with this opinion, Sir Robert Sibbald, in his "Hist. Inq." printed in 1707, says, "the wall runs from

* The words in Gildas are, "Videlicet, ut inter duo maria murum per millia passuum plurima trans insulam instruerent a mari Scotiæ usque ad mare Hiberniæ (i. e. a Kair Eden) civitate antiquissima, duorum ferme millium spatio a Monasterio Abercornig (quod nunc vocatur Abercorn) ad occidentem, tendens contra occidentem, juxta urbem Alcluth."

† The language of Bede bears a striking resemblance to that of Gildas, except in the proper names:—"Cujus operis hodie certissima vestigia cernere licet. Incipit autem duorum ferme milium spatio a Monasterio Abercornig, ad occidentem, in loco qui sermone Pictorum Peanuahel, lingua autem Anglorum, Penuelum appellatur, et tendens contra occidentem terminatur juxta urbem Alcluit."—Lib. i. Cap. xii,

Carriden towards the Castle of Blackness, where it once ended, just as it did upon Clyde at Dunglass." The "Peanvahl" or "Penveltum" of Bede, however, he thinks corresponds with the present Walton, which, he says, "derived its name from the wall, as it stood upon its track." In the former Statistical Account of the Parish, the wall is said to have terminated at "Waltown;" and Camden, in his "Britannia," Vol. iii. p. 318, states, that "Antoninus Pius's wall may be traced to Carriden, and probably ended at Waltoun, the Penvahl of Bede." The locality of Walton, however, affords a sufficient ground of conviction that, though evidently the site of a Roman fort or station, it neither formed the termination of the wall nor stood upon its track; as, instead of being situated close upon the shore of the Frith in the line of direction obviously taken by the wall from Kinneil to Grange, and thereby completing the line of defence, it diverges towards the south at a considerable angle to the distance of about a mile, over irregular ground, and affords no advantage that could recommend it as the last station of so elaborate a work. Besides, Walton, instead of being two miles, as it ought to be according to Bede's account, is about four miles from Abercorn; and, instead of being derived from the "Penveltum" of Bede, or from any relation it had to the wall, the name seems to trace its origin to a noted well or fountain of water that was constructed there to supply the military posted at the station, and which, in the memory of the present tenant of the farm, went by the name of the Roman well, pronounced *Scoticé wall*, having been filled up above fifty years ago; and where still, at a little distance from the former reservoir, an unfailing supply of excellent water at all seasons is delivered from a square stone-built conduit, large enough to receive the body of a man. I am satisfied, in short, that the wall terminated either at Carriden or Blackness, and, with highest probability, at the former, its remains, till very lately, being pretty clearly traceable to a small tumulus to the south-east of Grange House, called in modern phrase, the "Deacon's Stone," and a farm-steading, little more than a gun-shot to the west of the tumulus, called "Graham's Dyke," affording unquestionable evidence that this was the identical line of its direction, and either of them forming a most desirable position for completing the line of defence, besides corresponding most nearly with the geographical description of the more ancient writers upon the subject.*

* It ought not, perhaps, to be omitted, that another opinion is held upon the sub-

The wall was cespitious, composed of earth or of the materials promiscuously taken from the ditch. "Non tam lapidibus," says Gildas, "quam cespitibus." There were nineteen forts erected upon it at certain intervals, the mean distance from station to station being $3554\frac{1}{2}$ yards, or something more than two English miles, so that an alarm could easily be communicated from one to another on the approach of danger. Roy makes the total length of the wall from Old Kilpatrick church to Carriden to have been 63,980 yards, or 36 miles and 620 yards English, being nearly $39\frac{3}{4}$ Roman miles; a measurement which corresponds very much with that of Gordon. From Dunglass to Blackness, the distance is about 40 English miles.

The origin of the appellation "Graham's" or "Grime's Dyke," which is sometimes given to the wall, seems not to have been exactly determined by antiquaries. According to Horsley, "Graham" in the Gaelic language signifies *black*, and, from its application to a large ditch and rampart that traverses a great part of Northumberland, which is so designated from its dark and sombre appearance in passing through the moors, this wall, he conjectures, may have taken its name from the same circumstance. The prevailing use of the appellation in the possessive case, however, would seem to restrict it to the name of a person; and the common legend is, that "Grime," nephew to Eugenius, King of the Scots, with his troops broke through the wall a few miles westward of Falkirk, between Camelon and Castlecary, and had the achievement immortalized by having his name given to the wall as its vernacular designation.

On the south side of the wall, and running in a great measure parallel with it, a military way was constructed for the more convenient and expeditious communication between the different stations. Roads of a similar description seem to have traversed the country in various directions; and, from south to north, it would appear that, by means of this kind, a line of connection was main-

ject. Nenius, who wrote A. D. 620, says, that the wall commenced at a place called in the British tongue, "Penguaul, which town, in Scottish, is called Cenail, but in English (i. e. Saxon) Peneltum."—"Cenail" is understood to be the same as Kinneil; and its signification in Gaelic, denoting the "*head*" or "*end*," is supposed to give farther indication that the wall terminated there. It is impossible to identify the "Cenail" or "Peneltum" of Nenius, if corresponding with the modern Kinneil, with the "Penuelum" of Bede, as the latter was only two, and the former is seven miles from Abercorn; but it is by no means improbable that, in the course of its construction, the wall concluded, in the first instance, at Kinneil, and was, at a subsequent period, continued onwards to Carriden. Horsley at first coincides with Nenius in the opinion, that Kinneil was the proper termination of the wall, but afterwards seems to agree with Gordon that it ended at Carriden.

tained through the whole extent of the Roman territories in Britain. Richard of Cirencester makes mention of a Roman way, that proceeded from the wall in Northumberland, by which I apprehend he means the wall built by the Emperor Adrian, by the Eildon hills, Borthwick Castle, Muttonhole, Cramond, Queensferry, and Abercorn, to Carriden, at or near the eastern termination of Antoninus's wall; and, several years ago, some remains of a causeway were dug up on the ridge that runs from Blackness to the road that leads from Carriden to Walton, to all appearance a branch from or an integral part of the above-mentioned way.

At Carriden various Roman relics have been found at different times, such as a Vespasian of gold; a stone, described by Gordon as having an eagle with expanded wings, holding a *corona triumphalis* in her bill, and standing in the middle of two Roman *vexilla* or standards, on one side, and on the other the letters COH. IULIA, and others so obliterated as to be illegible, which was built in a wall added to the house by Alexander Miln, Esq. the then proprietor; Roman pottery; an old Roman altar, having no inscription, placed at the time in the garden; and a brass *gladius* or sword, which is now in the Advocates' Library. "About fifty years before" the former Statistical Account of the parish was written, the author says, that, "in digging up stones to build a park dike, axes, pots, and several vases, evidently Roman, were found, and sent to the Advocates' Library." In levelling the tumulus above Grange House, already referred to, in spring 1833, several rude stone coffins with bones in them were found, but from the appearance of the bones, there was reason to believe that they had been deposited there at a much later date than the time of the Romans.

At the eastern extremity of the parish, on a promontory jutting into the Firth, stands the Castle of Blackness, one of the four national fortresses of ancient times, whose preservation is guaranteed by the Act of Union. The period of its erection is unknown, and its history has been very imperfectly recorded. It is a structure more characteristic of the warfare of a ruder age than adapted to the modern improvements in the military art.

Mansion-Houses.—The mansion-houses of Carriden, Bonhard, and Grange, are fabrics of some antiquity; the first of them, with some modern additions, being still occupied as the residence of the proprietor; the second attached to a farm; and the third, after being lately put under some repairs, occupied by a tenant.

III.—POPULATION.

Population according to census		1811,	.	1348
		1821,	.	1429
		1831,	.	1261
		1841,	.	1197
The births in 1700 were 25 males, 19 females—deaths, 4 males, 9 females.				
1710	36	49	11	8
1720	36	36	27	26
1730	32	25	23	19
1740	8	12	23	18
1750	19	18	13	6
1760	12	22	19	28
1770	18	17	10	13
1780	26	22	10	8
1790	30	14	10	19
1800	22	21	12	14

The greatest number of marriages from 1754 to 1800 inclusive, was in 1763 and 1765, amounting to 19 in each year; the smallest in 1757, amounting to 3.

The yearly average of births for 7 years before 1835, about 31
marriages, 8

Two of the proprietors are resident. The number of those whose property amounts to the yearly value of L.50 and upwards is six.

The people are in general industrious, but among some classes there is to be found room for improvement in point of cleanliness, and domestic comfort and accommodation. When dressed according to their taste, and especially as they are to be seen at church, their appearance is most respectable.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—

The number of Scots acres in the parish is	2157
	in cultivation, . 2023
	incapable of do. . 16
	under wood, . 90
	roads, &c. . 28

Rent of Land.—The rent of the best land is from L. 4 to L. 5, that of the worst is about L. 1. The average grazing of a milk cow is L. 3, 10s.; of others L. 2, 10s.; and of a sheep 10s. per year.

Kinds of Stock.—The sheep mostly fancied for fattening are the black-faced; the breed of cattle is chiefly the short-horned; but various sorts from the north are also in much request by the farmer. The horses are for the most part the Clydesdale.

Husbandry.—The style of husbandry in practice is the most approved of the present day. The farmers are most intelligent, enterprising, and active; and the state of cultivation in which the farms are upheld is of the highest order. Much has been done of late to improve and ameliorate the soil by draining, manuring, and

regulating the fences. Tile-draining has been introduced with great advantage. Sown grass is often grazed instead of being cut, as being more conducive to keep the land in heart. Growing of turnips has been adopted to a considerable extent, with the most decided benefits to the cultivator. The duration of leases is generally for nineteen years. The usual rotation pursued is that of six years. Some of the farm-buildings are of a superior class. In two instances, the thrashing-mills are driven by steam-engines, and the fields, with few exceptions, are well inclosed.

Quarries and Mines.—There are several quarries of free and whinstone in the parish, but they are only wrought occasionally for domestic use. The substrata abound in coal, and coal has been wrought in the parish from time immemorial. In former times the supply was furnished from the estates of Carriden, Bonbard, and Grange. Within the present century, no less than ten different pits have been at work, though at different times, and all of them within little more than a mile distant from each other. At present there are only two in operation, belonging to the Duke of Hamilton.

The seam of coal wrought in the mingle or engine-pit, which was the only one at work in 1832, for which year the following account is given, is called the Eastern Main coal, and is in general about 4 feet thick. There are now (1843) four in operation. The workings are situated on the western boundary of the parish, close to that of Borrowstounness, the coal going under the name of the Bridgeness coal in the towns to which it is taken, from the name of the pier where it is shipped. The pit is $77\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms deep, and the coals are drawn from the dip by an engine to the pit bottom, whence another engine raises them to the surface, the water being pumped up by a third engine of greater power, erected at the mouth of the pit to within 21 fathoms of the surface, where it escapes by a day-level to the Forth. The quantity of coals produced in 1832 was 9780 tons great coal, 18,062 tons chows, and 4363 tons small coal. There are about ninety-five men, many of them residing in the parish of Borrowstounness, employed in hewing the coal, which is brought from the workings in *corves* or baskets set upon hurleys, which run upon a plate railway, driven by their children or putters to the place, from which the engine below takes it to the pit bottom. The colliers are paid 2s. 10d. per ton for working the great coal, 1s. 10d. per ton for chows, and 8d. per ton for small coal. A collier with his putter may put out $1\frac{1}{2}$ ton great coal, and 2 tons chows in a

day. The small coal is quite unsaleable ; the greater part of it is, of course, left in the waste, and, were it not for the use of the salt-pans, none of it would be brought up at all. The pit is about a mile from the shore, the coals being conveyed to the place of shipment by a railway. The coal dips generally to the west at the rate of 1 in 7 or 8 feet. Before the present dip workings commenced, which was in 1830, the workings were above the level of the pit-bottom, reaching to the south of the pit about 900 yards, where the coal gets below the Irongath hills, in a direction nearly straight south, dipping to the north in some places at the rate of 1 in 3. But it became so mixed with stone and troubled with dikes, which were generally up to the south, that the working of it was discontinued. The quality of this seam of coal is highly esteemed.

In 1833, the Burn pit was sunk from the main to the smithy coal, a seam lying 12 fathoms deeper, and about 2 feet 7 inches thick.

Fishery.—A stake-net for taking salmon was erected several years ago in the Frith, on the property of Captain Hope of Carriden, having three pockets or chambers ; and the fishing has occasionally been pretty successful.

Produce.—The following is given as an approximation to the gross amount of produce :

Produce of grain of all kinds,	L. 7558
potatoes, turnips, &c.	1200
hay and pasture,	2376
gardens,	250
coal mines,	7000
salt-pans,	1000
	<hr/>
	L. 19,379

Manufactures.—There were six salt-pans working in the village of Grange-pans in 1834, which made about 23,000 bushels of salt annually ; now there are only four at work. In the same village, in 1832 and 1833, and the two following years respectively, 713 $\frac{5}{8}$, 312, and 552 quarters of barley were malted. At Brickfield, near Blackness, a valuable field of clay, averaging 12 feet deep, has been wrought for some years past, which, in 1834, gave employment to twelve men, and then yielded at an average yearly 150,000 bricks, 200,000 roofing tiles, and 200,000 draining tiles. Since then, the demand for the latter has been greatly on the increase. Some years ago, there was at Blackness a chemical work in operation, for the manufacture of soda, Barilla ash, and Roman cement ;

a similar establishment at Bridgeness for the manufacture of vitriol or sulphuric acid; and another in Grangepans for the manufacture of sal-ammoniac; but all three are now extinct.

Navigation.—There are no vessels belonging to the parish; but about 300 coasters, from 20 to 100 tons, from different ports in Scotland, and ten foreign vessels, from 50 to 100 tons, ship coals yearly at Bridgeness. In 1834, about 400 tons of Leith manure were imported at Blackness by two neighbouring farmers at 5s. per ton, employing eight vessels at 50 tons each; and twelve vessels from 20 to 60 tons were employed by the proprietor of the brick-work in exporting the produce of his manufacture. There are also occasionally other importations of lime and manure for agricultural purposes.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town, &c.—The nearest market-town is Borrowstownness, which is about one mile and a-half distant from the church; it is also the post-town. Linlithgow lies about three miles distant to the south-west. There are five villages in the parish—Grangepans, Bridgeness, Cuffabouts, (supposed to be a corruption of Causewayfoot, the original name,) Muirhouses, and Blackness,—the four last being of very little extent.

Roads.—The turnpike-road from Linlithgow to South Queensferry passes through the south-eastern section of the parish for nearly a mile and a-half, but no public vehicle travels upon it. Another line of public road is at present in the act of formation from Grangemouth by Borrowstownness, diverging from the coast at the church of Carriden, and designed to meet the road above-mentioned at Champany. A railway, about a mile in length, having an inclined plane on which the empty waggons are drawn up by the descent of those that are loaded, was constructed some years ago for the purpose of conveying the coals from the pits to the pier of Bridgeness. The other roads in the parish are sufficiently convenient for the purposes of communication, and, for the most part, kept in a good state of repair.

Harbours.—The pier of Bridgeness was some years ago extended by the proprietor about fifty yards further into the sea, to secure a greater depth of water for the vessels that repair to it, and affords excellent accommodation for the purposes for which it was erected, the trade to which it is serviceable being the exportation of coals and salt, and the occasional importation of manure and limestone. In former times Blackness was a harbour of conside-

rable importance, being the sea-port of Linlithgow, the county town. Sir Robert Sibbald, in his "History of Linlithgowshire" in 1707, describes it as "a harbour for all sorts of ships, where they have a large custom-house, and warehouses with other accommodations for merchants." "In the range along Bo'ness and the South Ferry they had," as he knew in his time, "some 36 ships belonging to them, though in all that tract south of the Frith there is no part for ships to lie at but Blackness. They traded with Holland, Bremen, Hamburgh, Queensburgh, and Dantzic. Many rich merchants lived there, and the cities of Glasgow, Stirling, and Linlithgow had great trade thence." Now the harbour is in ruins, the custom-house converted into lodgings appropriated chiefly for the use of sea-bathers in summer, and the only merchandize known to the place is the shipment of a few tons of bricks and tiles, and the importation of a few tons of lime and manure.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church stands upon the coast, distant about two miles from the eastern and southern, and one mile from the western extremity of the parish; and only one or two families can be said to be at a distance of more than two miles from it. It was built in 1766, the old church having stood about half-a mile distant, in close proximity to the mansion-house of Carriden, where the old church-yard still remains. The church was never properly seated by the heritors, but left to be occupied very much at the pleasure of the parishioners, so that, though fully seated, the workmanship is but indifferent; and the sittings were possessed in a great measure promiscuously, as they had been erected or purchased by the parties till 1826, when a formal division of it was made by the sheriff among the heritors, according to their respective valuations. The pulpit, which was transferred from the old church to the new, and is formed of oak, is said to have been brought from Holland, having inscribed upon it the date 1655. One of the communion cups is dated 1660, the shape being the antique form of an inverted candlestick; the other was procured during the present incumbency. The church, according to its present arrangement, will accommodate 458, but might be seated for 500. There are 28 free sittings allotted to the poor. The manse was built in 1818, and, though of rather small dimensions, is commodious, well-finished, and in good repair. The old manse, now in ruins, is situated a few hundred yards to the east of the present. The glebe is 14.556 imperial acres, hav-

ing been received in excambion for the old glebe in 1817. The stipend, inclusive of communion elements, is 128 bolls meal, and as many of barley.

In 1834, there were 259 families, amounting to 1104 individuals who might be reckoned as attached to the Established Church, 22 families containing 96 individuals belonging to the United Associate Synod; one family and part of another who were Reformed Presbyterians, and there were 5 Episcopalians. The average number of communicants is nearly 200.

Religious Society.—A Parochial Bible Association was instituted in 1826, in connection with the West Lothian Bible Society, with a special provision, that the wants of the parish should, in the first instance, be supplied. The rate of contribution was a penny a-week, and in this way, from 1826 to 1833 inclusive, L.51, 17s. 11d. were collected for the purpose of promoting the distribution of the Scriptures. This society has now merged in a general association lately established in support of the schemes of the General Assembly, and for circulating Bibles through the parish.

Church Collections.—The amount of church collections for religious and charitable purposes for the seven years ending in 1834, averaged L. 38, 4s. 11d.

Education.—Besides the parochial school, there are three other schools in the parish, two of them under the patronage and superintendence of the Carriden family, one an infant school, the other for the education of female children, the third dependent upon the personal efforts and success of the teacher.

The parochial teacher's salary is the maximum. He possesses the legal accommodations as to school and dwelling-house, and in lieu of a garden, two bolls of oatmeal are allowed him.

Librury.—In 1821, a library was instituted in the parish, to consist of books of a religious and instructive character, and to remain in perpetuity for the use of the inhabitants. A number of donations set it at once on a respectable footing, and the accession of subscribers was at first promising, but latterly they have not been so numerous.

Friendly Societies and Savings' Banks.—Some years ago, a Savings' bank was established, in the hope that it would speedily and largely improve the character and domestic comfort of the labouring classes; but the experiment did not succeed. Few embraced the opportunity of entering deposits, and those few not altogether the class of persons for whose benefit it was designed.

Friendly Societies.—There were two Friendly Societies in existence in 1834, and had been for some years before—one for the support of its members when disabled by sickness or infirmity, the other for defraying the funeral expenses incurred at the death of a member, or of a member's wife or child. At present the latter only is in existence.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of paupers upon the roll for the seven years ending in 1834, was $30\frac{1}{4}$, to each of whom the average sum allotted yearly was L.2, 2s. 6½d. Besides those upon the roll, there are others who are allowed occasional relief. The funds for this expenditure proceed partly from the church collections, and the proclamation and mortcloth dues, and partly from an assessment laid on the landlord and tenant, and which, for the seven years above specified, averaged L.36, 6s. 3½d. per annum. It is much to be regretted, that the disposition, once so honourable a trait in the Scottish character, to live independently of parochial aid, is greatly on the decline.

Ale-houses.—Of these there are too many amongst us for the moral well-being of the people. There are six houses in all where spirituous liquors are sold.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In more remote times, the aspect of the parish must have been considerably different from what it is at present. The surface was formerly much more thickly studded with human habitations and scenes of human industry, grouped together in little patches, than it is now; many of which have disappeared altogether, while of some a few faint vestiges still remain. At one time a considerable establishment of salt-works, now wholly obliterated, existed near where the present church is situated, and was named in the former Statistical Account, “Benhard-pans.” Nearly a mile distant from the church to the east, another series of erections of the same kind was stationed, called Carris-pans, probably a corruption of Carriden-pans, of which the only relic to be seen is the stakes, that mark out the boundary of the “*bucket pat*,” that is, the reservoir that held the sea water that was to be subjected to the process of evaporation. Bonhard appears to have been once the seat of a village inhabited by the labourers that were employed at the coal-works formerly in operation there. Little Carriden, situated a short distance eastward from the Muirhouses, but now extinct, was within these twenty years in existence. From time to time, the smaller farm steadings have been gradually disappearing. And the villages that continue to exist discover symptoms

of decay rather than of increase and improvement. Blackness, especially, seems to have shrunk greatly from its former importance, as, besides being a respectable sea-port and mart of trade, it was once the centre of a considerable population, having in its neighbourhood mills, fisheries, coal-works, and salt-pans.*

Revised April 1843.

PARISH OF WHITBURN.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF Lothian & Tweeddale.

THE REV. GRAHAM MITCHELL, A.M., MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Extent, &c.—WHITBURN, formerly written Whiteburn, seems to have received its name in contradistinction to Blackburn, which lies to the east of the parish. In extent it is about six miles long, and two and a-half broad. It is bounded on the east, by Livingston; on the west, by Shotts and part of Cambusnethan; on the south, by West Calder; and on the north, by Bathgate and part of Shotts.† The Almond runs through the north of the parish, and the Breich along the south of it.

There are several springs, and a good deal of mineral water strongly impregnated with iron.

Mineralogy.—A most valuable seam of coal has been wrought here for more than a century. A drop falls from the top of

* Besides what was formerly stated in the text, the importance of Blackness may be inferred from the following words found in a charter granted in 1642, to Thomas Dalzell de Binnes,—“*Duobus marinis molendinis granariis lie sea-cornmylnis cum multuris omnium terrarum de Blacknes et Bonytoun, infra dominium de Linlithgow, cum viridario—piscationibus et piscariis lie cruves de Blacknes infra mare, cum carbonibus, et salinæ patellis, de dominio et balliatu prædicto.*” In another charter to George Earl of Linlithgow in 1690, the tenor is—“*officio constabulariæ et custodiæ castri de Blackness—terris, et carbonibus et carbonariis dictarum terrarum de Blackness tam infra quam extra fluxum maris;—piscibus, piscariis et lie cruives de Blackness infra mare, &c.*”

† The first branch of the Breich water commences at a place called Darmid Lin, or Moss, on the lands of Climpby,—it is sometimes called Darmed Kirk, as sermons were often preached in that retired place in times of persecution. The second branch commences at a place called Linqure, between Knowton and Headless cross Mains, and Causeway hill. The Almond water commences at the foot of the Hirst hill, in the parish of Shotts, and from Blairmackhole moss, about a mile farther north, in the same parish.

the pit, and sometimes forms itself into strong pillars, which can with difficulty be broken. It is calcareous stalactite. The following report of Greenridge Colliery is from Mr Bald, engineer, who is well acquainted with a considerable part of the parish :—

“ 1st, The dip of the strata is to the north ; their declination from the horizon is in general about one in twelve, but they are in some instances much flatter, and also steeper. The strata are occasionally cut by veins or slips, producing dislocations of the strata, and these are generally in the line of bearing from east to west. The effect of these is to throw the strata either up or down to the rise or crop.

“ 2^d, The whole of the parish of Whitburn, as to its minerals, is of the independent coal formation, and consists of the following kinds of rocks :—

“ *Sandstone*, of various shades of yellow and brown, some of it in thick beds ; flagstones, and thin slaty sandstone. Mica is found in all these, and generally very abundant in the latter. Hardness, from very soft to very hard.

“ *Argillaceous shistus*, of various shades, from dark blue to black, is found in beds of a few inches to several yards thick. This shistus, when mixed with sand, forms a clay-slaty sandstone. Bands and balls of argillaceous ironstone are frequently found in this shistus. Some of this rock is of very fine particles, decomposes rapidly when exposed to the air and weather ; when calcined, it is of a bright-red.

“ *Argillaceous rocks*, of various shades of brown and approaching to black. This is commonly found to be the bed upon which each coal rests ; in it are found occasionally small balls of argillaceous ironstone, very much the shape of potatoes. This kind of rock is termed fire-clay, and from it, in different places, the best fire-bricks of Scotland are made, for resisting the action of intense furnace heat.

“ *Greenstone rock*, commonly termed blue whinstone, abounds very much in this parish. It is similar to the same kind of rock so abundant in Scotland, composed of red or white felspar and hornblende, and in whatever situation the bed of greenstone is, that is, whether in a vertical or horizontal position, the numerous fissures, which give it a columnar form, are always at right angles to the bed on which it rests. This rock is found in detached beds, generally several yards in thickness, forming small knolls, and at times the summit of hills, of from 150 to 200 feet high,

above the adjacent country. Many mineralogists, and mining engineers in particular, think these rocks of igneous origin, because when they come in contact with bituminous coal, the common coal of Scotland, they deprive it of its bitumen, converting it in some cases into glance coal (the blind coal of Scotland), having neither smoke nor flame, on which account it is used for drying malt, at other times it converts the coal into a black stone of no use whatever.

“ *Limestone*.—None of this rock is found in the parish, but mineralogists are of opinion it is to be found in the lower series of the coal strata, and of that kind which is termed the mountain-limestone.

“ *Ironstone*.—The ironstone found in this parish is of the common argillaceous kind, and is found in beds from one inch to several inches thick, or in balls or flat circular pieces. This ironstone is similar to that found in all the coal-fields of Scotland, and used for the making of pig-iron. It yields generally from twenty-seven to thirty-three per cent. of pig-iron.

“ The same kind of organic remains are found in the strata here as are common in all the coal-fields of Scotland.

“ The alluvial covers are, 1. the old alluvial cover, composed of clay, sand, and small stones, intimately blended together, and very impervious to water. In this, large greenstone boulders abound. 2. Quick sands. 3. Clay mixed with small rounded stones. 4. Peat-bog. This is of very considerable extent, and very full of water.

“ The most valuable mineral which this parish contains, is what is called the Crofthead, or slaty black band ironstone, of which a very fine field has lately been discovered lying between Fauldhouse beyond the village of Longridge. The change which this discovery has made upon this district is very remarkable; what was, till within the last three years a solitary moorland scene, has now become one of enterprise and industry. Tall chimneys are seen in all directions, and clouds of smoke rolling along from huge burning masses, show the extensive nature of the operations which are now carried on.

“ In regard to the position of this mineral, in relation to the strata of the neighbouring districts, it is undoubtedly connected with the Great Western Coal-field, or Glasgow Field, as it is usually termed, and lies at the bottom of the series to which it belongs. At the south-western extremity of the parish, the Shotts

minerals are found cropping out in the Fauld Burn, a little above the village of Fauldhouse. These minerals lie somewhat in the form of a basin, the next in order below which is the slaty band series, to which also belong several seams of coal, generally of trifling amount. One of these seams is at present worked at Crofthead. The slaty band ironstone lies eleven fathoms below this seam. It occurs in three layers or plies, averaging in all about fourteen inches thick, the lower layer having from half an inch to one inch of coal adhering to the bottom of it. The strata above the slaty band is composed of shale, which contains balls of ironstone, which are worked along with the slaty band in the "following," or part of the overlaying strata, which is taken down in order to make the workings the proper height. From twenty-three to twenty-five fathoms below the slaty band, there is a bed of ironstone balls, which contain a very high per centage of iron. These balls lie in a bed of clay, from four to four and a half feet thick. From forty-five to forty-eight fathoms below this bed, there is another bed of ironstone balls, from two to two and a-half feet thick, lying below a mixture of sandstone and clay, the floor being composed of bastard limestone, from one foot to sixteen inches thick. Sixteen fathoms below this, there is a bed of limestone, which probably belongs to the limestone series which occurs at Levenseat, in the county of Edinburgh, and which lies beneath it. Below this, the coals which are found at Wilsontown, Woodmuir, and Longford, in the counties of Lanark and Edinburgh, occur. The series to which the slaty band belongs lies between the Levenseat limestone and the west country coal, called the Drumgray coal. There appears to be a great mass of sandstone between the slaty band series and the Levenseat limestone. It is considered a doubtful point whether the slaty band field extends much beyond the district in which it is at present worked. It has been found at Langside, in the parish of Shotts, and was supposed to have been found about a mile and a-half south from Crofthead.

"Although now so highly prized, the real nature and valuable properties of this kind of ironstone was, until within these few years, almost unknown. It was worked about forty years ago by the Wilsontown Iron Company, on the lands of Wester Handaxwood, in the county of Edinburgh; but its valuable properties were then unknown, and it was supposed that it did not extend to the north side of Breich Water, whereas the greater part of

this ironstone has now been found to lie on the north side of this water. The whole of the slaty band as yet worked in this parish is in tack by the Shotts Iron Company, and Messrs Holdsworth of Coltness. A number of pits have been sunk, and a number of steam-engines are used for pumping and winding. There are upwards of 200 workmen employed, who receive from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per ton for working the ironstone. The minerals in this field dip to the north-west one foot in seven. The ironstone is worked in the Longwall or Shropshire manner, and a subsiding of about eighteen inches takes place. Great care is required in regulating the air-courses, and numerous air-pits are sometimes required in consequence of the great quantity of sulphurous vapour exhaled from the ironstone. When brought to the surface, the ironstone is removed on railways a short distance from the pits, where it is piled in large heaps for the purpose of being calcined. These heaps vary in size, according as it is found most convenient, from a few hundred up to 2000 tons. Previous to being set on fire, the mass is covered with ashes, in order to exclude the air, otherwise the ironstone becomes oxidated and of a reddish colour. 1000 tons of ironstone is, when calcined, reduced to 64 tons, and the quantity of iron got from the raw stone is estimated as high as forty-two per cent. When properly calcined, it has a very open texture, in consequence of the carbonaceous matter having been consumed, for which reason it is used for mixing with other kinds of iron when put in the furnace, in order to make them flow more easily. Whilst the process of calcining is carried on, the smoke has a very stifling effect, in consequence of the sulphurous vapour which is given out along with it, and sulphur is found deposited on the top of the heap. This vapour has a most devastating effect on the vegetation around, the ground in some places near the pits being totally devoid of vegetation; and on the lands of Crofthead, a young plantation has been totally destroyed. When the water was pumped out of the old workings of Wester Handaxwood in spring 1840, it was so much impregnated with sulphate of iron, that it killed the fish in the Breich and Almond waters, into which it flowed. There are a number of faults or dislocations in this field, which generally run in the direction of the dip and rise, and vary in depth from a few inches to about nineteen feet, but they are not of such extent or frequency of occurrence as materially to impede the working of the ironstone."

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—These are, Sir William Baillie of Polkemmet, patron; * Alexander Weir, Esq. of Boghead; George Napier, Esq. of Little Blackburn; James Waddle, Esq. of Crofthead, &c.

Antiquities.—In Cowhill, two gold pieces of Roman coin were dug up in a bog.

The late Samuel Muir, Rector of Perth Academy, who was said to have been master of the grammar of eighteen different languages, received the first elements of his education in this parish.

III.—POPULATION.

The number of inhabitants in this parish stood as follows at the different census :

Year 1755,	.	1121
1791,	.	1322
1801,	.	1537
1821,	.	1900
1831,	.	2075
1841,	.	2596

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The parish contains 10,019 English acres.

The improvements of which husbandry is susceptible in this parish are considerable. The ground being clay, or till bottom, it much requires draining, which is not yet carried to that extent it might. In some few places, the soil is of such a stiff nature that draining proves of little benefit.

There is a great want of good enclosures and fences in some parts of this parish. Plantations are getting up.

Quarries.—Several stone quarries are open in the parish, one at Blackburnhaugh, and another at Longridge. Whinstone is to be found. There are some good sand quarries; one of a white siliceous nature, which makes excellent garden-walks. There is another of red sandstone.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the parish church is most convenient. When this parish was disjoined from Livingston, it was opened for public worship on the 21st October 1718; but there was preaching before from the year 1628. † The church was erected and partly endowed by public subscriptions.

* The progenitors of Sir William Baillie came originally from Lanarkshire. They purchased the property of Polkemmet in the sixteenth century from Mr Andrew Shaw, a brief account of whom will be found in Spottiswood's History.

† Cargill, it is said, preached there on the Sabbath prior to the excommunication at Torwood.

The extent of the glebe is between six and seven acres. The final decret of locality for the stipend, though many years before the court, is not yet determined, but over and above the stipend, L.100 arises to the minister from a mortification in the county of Lanark, and which entitles him to a vote for member of Parliament, besides the vote in Linlithgow county.

There are three Dissenting meeting-houses in the parish. Divine service in the Established Church is well attended, and the majority of the parishioners are attached to it. Secession originated here from the parishioners being frustrated in obtaining a vote for the minister, notwithstanding they had contributed to the erection of the church with that special end in view.

The amount of collections in the parish church used to be between L.46 and L.50 in the year ; but it has been less of late.

Ministers.—The Rev. Alexander Wardrope, first minister of the church of Whitburn, was the descendant of a respectable family in this place. He was licensed to preach about 1722, and, some time after, was ordained at Muckhart. (Vide Sketch of him by the late Rev. John Brown.) We find Mr Wardrope mentioned in Erskine's Memoirs as one of his correspondents. Mr Wardrope took an active share in the discussion usually called "the Marrow Controversy." Mr Wardrope, however, excelled more as a preacher than a controversialist. People came in crowds from very great distances to hear him.

The individual who succeeded Mr Wardrope was Dr William Porteous. He was the son of the Rev. James Porteous of Monyvaird. He was born on the 10th of March (O. S.) 1735. From the Memoir of his life, it appears that he became one of the most able ministers of the Church of Scotland in his day. By him was planned the Glasgow Society of the Sons of the Clergy, which has endeared his memory to the Church. In the same spirit of humanity and zeal for the best interests of men, he promoted with all his public and private influence the noble and extensive views of the British and Foreign Bible Society. And it was upon his motion before the Church courts, there was appointed the first public collection which was ever made in Scotland for the objects of that institution. He was ordained minister of Whitburn on the 10th of June 1760, where he laboured for ten years. On the 28th June 1770, he was appointed minister of St George's, Glasgow, where he set agoing Sabbath schools, and devised plans for the benefit of the poor.

The next minister who succeeded Dr Porteous as minister of Whitburn was the Rev. Mr Baron, who afterwards became Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of St Andrews. Professor Baron was born at Kershall, in the parish of Corstorphine, in 1735; he died in 1803. He received the greater part of his education at the University of Edinburgh. His first settlement took place at Wamfray. His reception in the parish was not very encouraging; but similar occurrences were not very unusual at that time. In 1774, he published an essay on the mechanical principles of the plough, and in 1777, a "History of the Colonization of the Free States of Antiquity, applied to the present Contest between Great Britain and her American Colonies." This work attracted much notice, in this country, and on the continent. It called forth several keen replies in England, and in the following year a French translation was published at Utrecht. When at Whitburn, he likewise wrote his history of the political connection between Great Britain and Ireland, which was published about 1780. Soon after he went to St Andrews.

It is proper to mention, that he wrote an account of the life of Thomson, which was prefixed to an edition of the "Seasons," published at Edinburgh. He also was a contributor to the Edinburgh Magazine. Among the distinguished men who then adorned the literature of Scotland, few were more conspicuous than the late Lord Kames. With him Mr Baron lived on terms of familiar intercourse. His Lordship, about this time, succeeded in reviving the Philosophical Society of Edinburgh, originally established by the celebrated Maclaurin. Of this Society Mr Baron was a member. In a few years, chiefly at the instigation of Principal Robertson, this Society merged in another on a more extended plan, and was incorporated by royal charter under the name of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. Of this Society Mr Baron was an original member. He was nominated Professor of Rhetoric and Logic in the University of St Andrews without his knowledge. This appointment compelled him to give up his benefice at Whitburn; but as a compensation for the loss of his living, the King was, many years afterwards, pleased to confer upon him a pension of L.100 a-year. His Lectures on Rhetoric were published in 1806.

Mr Baron was succeeded in the charge by Dr James Somerville. He was born in Carnwath in the year 1747. He was appointed minister of Whitburn in 1779, in which charge he laboured about

ten years. (Vide account of Dr Sommerville in Dr Stevens's history, also prefixed to the volume of his published discourses.)

Dr Somerville was succeeded in the charge by the Rev. James Rhind, who was admitted minister of Whitburn in 1790. His successor was the Rev. James Watson, who was translated from the presbytery of Orkney.

The Rev. Archibald Bruce, minister of the Associate Congregation, and teacher of the theological class at Whitburn under the inspection of the (late) General Associate Synod, was a man of such eminent attainments in theology and literature, that his name deserves to be here recorded. In the year 1780, he published "Free Thoughts on the Toleration of Popery;" a work of most elaborate research, which has furnished subsequent writers upon the subject with a rich store of materials, and which procured Mr Bruce the friendship of Lord George Gordon, upon whom Mr Bruce waited when in London in the year 1782, and who, a year or two later, visited Mr Bruce at Whitburn. The following works, among many others, issued from his pen: "Introductory and Occasional Lectures," delivered in the Theological Academy at Whitburn; "A Dissertation on the Supremacy of Civil Powers in Matters of Religion;" translation from the French of "Discourses on the True and False Religion, by Pictet." Vide sketch of Mr Bruce in the Life of Dr M'Crie.

Education.—There are five schools; two are endowed from a sum of L.4250 left to the schools of this and Cambusnethan parishes. The salaries of the teachers of these two schools, independently of the school-fees, at present amount to less than L. 30, besides free house and garden. The parish schoolmaster's salary is the maximum, L.34, 4s. 4½d. He has also a glebe of about ten acres, Scotch measure. He has the legal accommodation. The amount of school-fees may be about L.20 per annum.

Libraries.—There are two libraries in the parish, one in the village and the other at Longridge.

April 1843.

PARISH OF UPHALL.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. GEORGE BOAG, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent, &c.—THE extreme length of the parish, from east to west, is 4 miles, and breadth from north to south about 3 miles. It contains 3120 Scots acres. It is bounded on the north, by Ecclesmachan and Linlithgow; on the east, by Kirkliston; on the south, by Mid-Calder; and on the west, by Livingston and Ecclesmachan.

The highest part of the parish is probably not 380 feet above the level of the sea. Toward the north-west, however, where the church and manse stand, it is so elevated as to have a commanding view of the country to the east and south-east as far as Edinburgh Arthur's Seat, and the Pentland hills, and even North Berwick Law, as well as the Lammermoor hills, are seen in the distance.

The parish anciently was named Strathbrock, which signifies "the valley of brocks or badgers."

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Parochial Registers.—These are chiefly records of marriages, baptisms, and proceedings of session. Registers of marriages and baptisms seem to have been regularly kept, and are for the most part extant, for upwards of two hundred and forty years. Records of the deeds of session have been regularly kept since the establishment of Presbyterianism, after the Revolution. During the time of Episcopacy, before the Revolution, a register of burials seems to have been kept, which is still extant; but since that time, this was for the most part neglected, till the beginning of the year 1840, when the regular registration of burials was commenced.

Land-owners.—The Earl of Buchan is the principal land-owner and patron of the parish. The valuation of his Lordship's property situate in this parish, being the estate of Strathbrock, and part of that of Amondell, is L.3320. Strathbrock, according to

the account given by the late Earl of Buchan, was very anciently in the possession of the family of Sutherland. From that family it passed to the Douglasses about the beginning of the fifteenth century; then to Keiths, Earls Marischal; next to the Earls of Winton and the Oliphants, and sometimes called, on that account, Strathbroke Oliphant. From them it came by purchase to Sir Lewis Stewart, whose grand-daughter, Katherine Stewart, marrying Henry Lord Cardross, it came by descent to the present Earl, Henry David Erskine. The present Earl succeeded his uncle, David Stewart Erskine, the eleventh Earl of Buchan, in 1829.* His own father, the late Honourable Henry Erskine, that most distinguished member of the Scottish Bar, was twice Lord Advocate of Scotland in 1782 and 1806. After a long, laborious, and brilliant professional career, extending over a period of forty-four years, Mr Erskine retired from public life, and spent the remainder of his days in domestic retirement at his beautiful villa of Amondell, in this parish, where he died on the 8th of October 1817, in the seventy-first year of his age. The remains of this most celebrated barrister, as also of the late Lord Chancellor Erskine, his brother, are deposited in the family vault adjoining Uphall Church.

Next to his Lordship, in respect of extent of property, is Norman Shairp, Esq. of Hustoun. The valuation of his estate is L.720.

The Shairps of Hustoun have held property (varying in extent at different periods), in the parish of Uphall, for nearly four hundred years. It is said that their ancestor, whom Nisbet calls William E'scharp, came from Normandy with David II. The first of the family of whom history makes particular mention, is Sir John Shairp, Knight, Advocate for Queen Mary, who acquired most of the property, and in whose time it is said the oldest part of Hustoun House was built. Since his time, many of his descendants have distinguished themselves in battle; and the graves of some are on famous fields.

Thomas Shairp, Esq. of Hustoun, held a pre-eminent place in the opposition party in the Union Parliament, in which, along with his brother-in-law, Murray of Livingston, he represented the county of Linlithgow. In the time of his successor, the property of Hustoun was the largest in the county of West Lothian.

* See Account of the parish of Uphall, 1st vol. of Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries.

Since that time, it has shrunk within comparatively narrow limits. All these facts and many more are fully authenticated by papers in possession of the family, some of which bear as far back a date as 1462.

R. W. Maxwell, Esq. of Middleton, is another land-owner. He has lately purchased and taken possession of that small but beautiful estate, the valuation of which is L.113.

The whole of the parish, with the exception of a very few acres, is the property of the Earl of Buchan and these two gentlemen.

Mansion-Houses.—These are, Kirkhill House, formerly the residence of the Earl of Buchan ; Amondell, at present occupied by his Lordship ; Houston House, the residence of Norman Shairp, Esq. ; and Middleton, the residence of R. W. Maxwell, Esq.

III.—POPULATION.

It appears from Old Accounts, that the population, sixty years ago, was only 600. Since that time, there has been a great increase.

Population in 1801,	.	786
1811,	.	800
1821	.	1016
1831,	.	1254
1841,	.	1467

The principal village is Broxburn, of which the population is 500 ; the only other village is Uphall, containing 220 ; the population of the country part of the parish, 504. The remaining part of the population at last census consisted of people employed on the railway, who have now left the parish.

Of the regular population, the number of families are, 245 ; belonging to the Established Church, 216 ; Dissenters, 24 ; Episcopalian, 1 ; Roman Catholics, 4.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The parish contains 3922 imperial acres, 3532 of which are in a state of cultivation. There are 178 acres of plantations ; 212 have never been cultivated, but are, for the most part, capable of cultivation. What is called Drumshorlan moor contains about 200 acres of uncultivated land, of which the half is natural wood.

The real rental of the parish is nearly L.6000 ; and the average rent per imperial acre about L.1, 15s.

Agriculture.—The greater part of the parish is in a high state of cultivation, and in the hands of active farmers, who have introduced many of the recent improvements in agriculture. Among these, furrow draining has been introduced within the last ten

years, and is progressing. The general character of the husbandry practised is skilful and in accordance with the modern improvements of the day. The soil has been greatly improved by the application of an extra supply of manure, brought from Edinburgh by the Union Canal.

The soil consists generally of clay, and, to a certain extent, its character is a loamy clay, incumbent on a close subsoil, impervious to moisture. The whole cultivated lands are divided into fields, enclosed with ditches and thorn hedges.

The general rotation of crops is, after hay or pasture, one crop of oats; next, fallow or fallow crop; then wheat succeeded by barley or grass seed for a hay crop. In the higher parts of the parish, little wheat is sown, but the fallow crop is succeeded by barley or oats, and then hay or pasture.

The dairy produce is excellent. Considerable attention has been paid of late years to the breed of cows. The Teeswater or short-horned and Ayrshire are preferred, and crosses from these. Butter and milk, also poultry and eggs, are sent to the Edinburgh market. The breed of horses for agricultural purposes has been of late much attended to, and a rapid improvement has taken place from the cultivation of the Clydesdale breed. There are not many sheep in the parish, but recently a few of the Leicester breed have been introduced; and so far as trial has been made, they have proved profitable.

This parish cannot yet boast of any manufactures. Coals have been wrought in it for a long period. The colliery at present in operation is on the estate of Houstoun. It employs about twenty individuals. The parish abounds with other minerals, ironstone and freestone. The ironstone has never been wrought. But the freestone has been wrought to a great extent. It is of an excellent quality, much celebrated; and of late years, by means of the canal, a great quantity of freestone has been conveyed from this parish to Edinburgh, and used in erecting some of the principal buildings in that city.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church bears all the marks of one erected before the Reformation. It is far from being commodious, and is too small for the population. The bell still in use is that brought from the steeple of the old church, and bears date 1441. The inscription on the bell is “*Campanum Sancti Nicholai de Strathbroke.*” The church was a rectory in early times. The

succession of ministers since the Reformation stands thus: 1. The Rev. James Smith; 2. Patrick Shairp; 3. Andrew Keith; 4. Alexander Keith; 5. W. Mowbray; 6. George Barclay, admitted 1691; 7. John Wilkie, admitted August 22, 1706; 8. William Gibb, admitted October 27, 1763; 9. David Ure, admitted July 14, 1796; 10. John Ferguson, admitted September 28, 1798; 11. John Ferguson, Junior, appointed assistant and successor, April 29, 1824; 12. George Boag, admitted August 22, 1839.

In a list of ecclesiastical persons who held lands in Scotland, anno 1296, and preserved in the Tower of London, we find the name of “*Ferquardus parsona ecclesiæ de Strathbroke vicecomitatu de Linlidgo.*”

The present stipend is sixteen chalders of victual, amounting in value, according to the fiars of crop 1840, to L.265. But there are unexhausted teinds to the value of nearly L.400. The glebe contains ten Scotch acres, which may be valued at L.25. There is, properly speaking, no manse at present. But in place thereof, the minister possesses an excellent mansion-house, belonging to the Earl of Buchan, delightfully and conveniently situated, for which the other heritors pay their proportion of rent.

Schools.—There are two schools. The parochial school is at the village of Broxburn. About 100 scholars attend it. The other school is at the village of Uphall. It is attended by 80 scholars. No additional school seems necessary. The parochial schoolmaster's salary is L.34, 4s. 4½d.; school fees amount to L.36 or thereabouts; and other emoluments to about L.15; the sum of L.1, 12s. is allowed him by the heritors for a deficiency of garden.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—Particular attention is paid to the support and comfort of the poor. The average number regularly receiving parochial aid is about 20; several get occasional relief besides. The weekly collections in the church average about L.16 a-year; property for behoof of the poor, invested in the kirk-session, yields L.40 a-year; and to make up the deficiency of what is requisite, the heritors voluntarily assess themselves. The assessment is L.30 or upwards, varying as circumstances require.

April 1843.

PARISH OF DALMENY.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN & TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES SCOTT, MINISTER.

L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE ancient name of the parish, as appears from charters of the twelfth century, was Dumanie or Dumanyn. In others of a later date, it is written indiscriminately, Dummany, Dumanie, Dalmany, or as at present Dalmeny. It is understood to be of Celtic origin, and to signify *Black heath*, or *gloomy spots*, of which there is reason to believe, the greater part of the parish at one time consisted.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish proper, exclusive of Auld-cathie, which was once a separate parish or vicarage, and which lies at a distance of $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from its western extremity, (being disjoined from it by parts of Kirkliston and Abercorn,) is about 4 miles in length, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth. It stretches along the southern shore of the Frith of Forth from a burn which separates it from Cramond parish on the east, to that of Abercorn on the west. Its southern boundary is Kirkliston parish and the river Almond. The name of the disjoined portion, Auld-cathie, properly, Alt-cathaek, signifies in the Celtic, rivulet of the defile “or battle burn.” Its length, which is one and a-half mile, is terminated by the parish of Linlithgow on the west, and Kirkliston on the east: its breadth three-fourths of a mile, by Ecclesmachan on the south, and Abercorn on the north. The two portions together comprise an area of 9.371 miles.

Topography, Geology, &c.—In the parish of Dalmeny proper, which, from its proximity to the Forth, its undulating surface, and its high state of cultivation, stands almost unrivalled for its beauty, there are three considerable elevations, ranging at about 380 feet above the level of the sea. Dundas Hill, on the west, runs for three-quarters of a mile from nearly north-west to south-east, presenting to the south-west a precipitous front to the height of about

seventy feet of columnar whinstone or trap. At the foot of the basaltic range, there was formerly a loch, which was lately drained, consisting of moss of unknown depth, and resting at the outlet eastward on a bed of shell-marl, from which have been dug several oak trees with the heart in a state of entire preservation. Southward from this line of whinstone, towards Kirkliston, is an immense extent of freestone of the finest quality, which has been cut out in great quantities from Humble quarry. The same stratum of freestone appears also on the north of this elevation in close contact with the whin, being separated from it only by a thin layer of indurated clay. This range of whin, which forms a prominent feature in the outline of the parish, extends eastward, reappearing at a place called Craigbree in a similar form, though less elevated, till it is again thrown up in an immense mass at Craigie-hill, where it attains its greatest height. A line drawn from this point through Mons-hill, Inch-Garvey, and North Queensferry, traces an almost uninterrupted chain of this igneous rock, though within the grounds of Dalmeny Park, where it forms an extensive and ever-varying succession of hill and dale, it is mostly covered with verdure or thriving wood. The strata lying within this range consist chiefly of freestone, shale, and limestone, of from seven to ten feet in thickness, of the finest quality, worked out by mining at an extensive quarry a little to the west of Queensferry, within the water-mark. There is also ironstone, and probably coal, though no serious attempt has ever been made to discover it. The whole of these intervening strata dip towards the north-east into the Frith of Forth, where, for a distance of upwards of five miles, including a part of Cramond parish to the west of the confluence of the Almond with the sea, and within the grounds of Dalmeny Park, they form alternately a beautiful succession of small promontories and bays, richly wooded to the water's edge. In the shale or blaes above the limestone, are found numerous vegetable fossils of the species peculiar to that order of the carboniferous group. The view from Dundas-hill, Craigie-hill, and Mons-hill, and indeed from the whole elevated range from which the stratified rocks take their slope, can scarcely be surpassed for extent, variety, and beauty. The panorama from the top of the latter hill, which forms the highest point in the spacious park of Dalmeny, and overlooks its splendid mansion, comprehending an extraordinary variety of objects that constitute the sublime and beautiful, includes no less than sixteen different counties.

Meteorology, &c.—The average summer temperature is 64; winter, 47°. Average barometrical pressure 29.4 inches. On 6th November 1838 and 7th January 1839, during the prevalence of very high winds, the barometer fell to the unprecedented degree of 27.9 and 27.8 inches.

The Frith of Forth, which, as has been already stated, bounds the parish entirely on the north, and which from Cockle Burn, a little to the east of Lord Rosebery's mansion in Dalmeny Park, has numerous indentations and inlets along the shore to Linmill-burn, its limit on the west, is often discoloured by the moss carried down by the river. The shore in many places, owing to the same cause, is covered with slime, which renders it somewhat unsafe, especially on horseback,—varied, however, with beautiful patches of white sand and shell. The tides rise somewhat higher than at Leith, owing to the contraction of the Frith towards Queensferry. There are no mineral springs in the parish except such as contain carbonate of lime; but the water is generally excellent, and one well, in particular, near Leuchold, in Dalmeny Park, is remarkable for its uncommon transparency and coolness. The only waterfall that can be termed a cascade on a very small scale, except at Craigiehall, to be afterwards noticed, is formed by the Linmill-burn falling over a precipitous rock of whin seventy-five feet high, near Springfield, which overhangs the road leading from Queensferry to Hopetoun House at the western extremity of the parish.

Zoology.—Under this head may be noticed a kind of sprat which appears occasionally in winter near Queensferry, resembling in its outline the young of the herring, and averaging five or five inches and a half in length. It is more generally known by the name of Garvey, probably from its place of rendezvous being in the immediate vicinity of the island so called. Dr Parnell states, in his *Essay on the Fishes of the Forth*, p. 163, that the sprat, which abounds on the coast of Essex and Kent, is found in the Frith throughout the year, frequenting the lower parts during summer, and ascending the estuary as the cold advances where, from the commingling of the fresh and salt water, the temperature is considerably higher. To a common observer, their migrations, except as to the time of their arrival, are extremely irregular, and their numbers vary so much, as in one season scarcely to repay the trouble of taking them, whilst in another they are caught in such shoals as to glut the Edinburgh and Glasgow markets and the in-

intermediate towns and country, and afford a surplus, which has been several times used by our farmers as a cheap and rich manure. There are two salmon-fisheries of stake net, one at the junction of the parish with Abercorn, and the other near the ruin of Barnbogle, in Dalmeny Park. They are taken, at the former especially, in considerable quantities, and sent chiefly to the Edinburgh market. They go up the Forth to spawn in September, and return in March and April.

The following is a list of the land and fresh-water Mollusca :

<i>Vitrina pellucida</i>	<i>Helix crystallina</i>	<i>Carychium minimum</i>
<i>Succinea amphibia</i>	— <i>fulva</i>	<i>Planorbis spiralis</i>
<i>Helix arbustorum</i>	— <i>aculeata</i>	— <i>contortus</i>
— <i>aspersa</i>	— <i>pulchella</i>	<i>Physa hypnorum</i>
— <i>nemoralis</i>	— <i>striata</i>	<i>Limneus pereger</i>
— <i>hispida</i>	<i>Bulimus obscurus</i>	<i>Ancylus fluviatilis</i>
— <i>radiata</i>	<i>Achatina lubrica</i>	— <i>lacustris</i>
— <i>alliarum</i>	<i>Clausilia rugosa</i>	<i>Paludina impura</i>
— <i>cellaria</i>	<i>Pupa umbilicata</i>	<i>Valvata piscinalis</i>
— <i>pura</i>	<i>Vertigo edentula</i>	<i>Cyclas cornea</i>

Insects—Coleoptera.—The list of coleopterous insects is rather extensive. The following are mentioned as rare or altogether new to Scotland :

<i>Æpus fulvescens</i>	<i>Sphæriestes immaculatus</i>	<i>Nedyus sulcatus</i>
<i>Notiophilus tibialis</i>	— <i>æneus</i>	— <i>Borriginis</i>
— <i>palustris</i>	— <i>foveolatus</i>	<i>Ceutorhynchus viduatus</i>
<i>Cillenium laterale</i>	<i>Rhinomacer attelatoides</i>	<i>Rhinoncus Castor</i>
<i>Bembidium paludosum</i>	<i>Rynchites lævicollis</i>	— <i>pericarpus</i>
<i>Hydroporus Frater</i>	<i>Apion subulatum</i>	— <i>canaliculatus</i>
— <i>12-pustulatus</i>	— <i>Astragali</i>	— <i>4-tuberculatus</i>
<i>Ips ferrugineus</i>	<i>Phyllobius viridicollis</i>	<i>Gymnæstron Linariæ</i>
<i>Syntomium nigroæneum</i>	<i>Omius pellucidus</i>	<i>Macrocnema Hyosciami</i>
<i>Micralymma Johnstonæ</i>	<i>Pissodes Pini</i>	— <i>semineæ</i>
<i>Aleochara Daltoni</i>	<i>Anoplus Plantaris</i>	<i>Cryptocephalus vittatus</i>
<i>Polystoma obscurella</i>	<i>Miccotrogus cinerascens</i>	<i>Chrysomela marginata</i>
<i>Autalia impressa</i>	<i>Orthochaetes setiger</i>	<i>Phædon aucta</i>
<i>Sphæriestes ater</i>	<i>Nedyus cyanipennis</i>	

Hymenoptera.—The locality abounds with the minuter insects of this order. Dr Greville has in his collection 133 named species belonging to the family *Chalcididæ* alone, collected for the most part in Dalmeny Park.

Lepidoptera.—The only rare butterfly he has observed is *Polyommatus Artaxerxes*. Among the *Sphingidæ* and moths may be enumerated,

<i>Deilephila porcellus</i>	<i>Orthosia lunosa</i>	<i>Hadesia Cucubali</i>
<i>Phragmatobia fuliginosa</i>	— <i>libura</i>	<i>Aeronyctia Rumicis</i>
<i>Agrotis cursoria</i>	— <i>macilenta</i>	<i>Halia vaccaria, &c.</i>
<i>Graphiphora erythrocephala</i>	<i>Xylophasia lithoxylea</i>	

Homoptera.—Of this order he possesses about 50 species, collected in the neighbourhood of Queensferry; and of

Hemiptera, nearly as many.

Diptera are very numerous, but chiefly the smaller kinds.

Botany.—There is nothing remarkable in the vegetation. The best plants are the following:

Galanthus nivalis
Lonicera Caprifolium
Spergula subulata
Rumex sanguineus

Rosa rubiginosa
Astragalus glycyphyllos
Atriplex rosea
 ——— *littoralis*

Carex vulpina
Scirpus maritimus
*Ophioglossum vulgatum**

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.†

Land-owners.—The sole proprietors are the Earl of Rosebery; James Dundas, Esq. of Dundas; James Joseph Hope Vere, Esq. of Craigiehall and Blackwood; and the Earl of Hopetoun. The three former are resident in the parish, and the latter in the adjoining parish of Abercorn. Near the south-eastern extremity of the parish is Craigiehall, the seat of J. J. Hope Vere, Esq.; beautifully imbedded in the vale of the Almond by the rising grounds, which are richly wooded on the south and north. The Almond or *Amon*, which in Gaelic signifies a meadow, enters the parish a little to the west of the house, and winding past its southern front, forms a cascade of six or seven feet perpendicular, whence it descends over a rocky bed, worn out into numberless fantastic cavities, beneath a rustic bridge, from which the effect is extremely picturesque and pleasing. This bridge, which was built by the grandfather of the present proprietor in 1757, consists of one arch, with a cord of 48 feet, so concealed by the ivy and wood that profusely cover it, as to give it the appearance of a perforated rock. Immediately above it, and overhanging the cataract, is a grotto, containing a saloon above and a bath below, which may be filled and emptied at pleasure by sluices from the river. There were formerly several statues on pedestals on a walk along the side of the river, from one of which, a Venus di Medici, a small island, formed by the division of the stream into two parts a little above Cramond bridge, obtained the name of Venus's Island. The original name of this place was *Creagach*, a Celtic word signifying a craggy ridge, and afterwards softened into Craigie. John de Craigie was one of the witnesses to the original charter of Dundas of that Ilk in the time of King David I. One of them defended the Castle of Kildrummy for David II. against the followers of Edward Baliol. Margaret de Craigie, only daughter of another

* The above lists have been kindly furnished by Dr Greville, whose eminence as a naturalist is universally known, and are the result of his own observation during a residence of several summers within the parish.

† For the Civil History of the parish, I have been indebted greatly to a manuscript collection by the late J. P. Wood, Esq., author of the History of Cramond, now in possession of his son, from which considerable portions of it are copied, nearly verbatim.

John de Craigie, who made a conspicuous figure about 1360, inherited the baronies of Craigie and Blackwood in Lanarkshire, and married, in 1387, John Stewart, a younger son of Sir Robert Stewart of Durrisdeer. Their posterity continued at Craigiehall for about 250 years, and ultimately sold it in 1643 to John Fairholm, treasurer of the city of Edinburgh. It appears from Calderwood's History (fo. 515,) that Henry Stewart of Craigiehall was chancellor of the jury summoned at Linlithgow in 1606, to try those Presbyterian ministers who had been indited on a charge of high-treason for having denied the King's authority in matters ecclesiastical. Tradition says that, having been one of the majority who found them guilty, agreeably to some prophetic intimation, his family never afterwards prospered; whilst that of Mr Hope, who defended them, and who was created a baronet by James VI., and held the office of King's Advocate, both under that monarch and Charles I., notwithstanding his known partiality to the Presbyterian cause, rose progressively to the affluence and importance since enjoyed by them. The descendants of the family of Stewart, who were also proprietors of Leuchold and Newhalls, have continued in the parish ever since, highly respected, but are now reduced to a single female representative, resident in Queensferry, with whom it is likely to become extinct. The present proprietor is the third in lineal descent from Charles, first Earl of Hopetoun, who acquired the estate in right of his lady, Henrietta, only surviving child of William, Marquis of Annandale, who had previously come into possession, also by marriage with the grand-daughter of the above-mentioned John Fairholm. The family assumed the name of Weir or Vere, on the marriage of the Honourable Charles Hope, second son of the foresaid Earl of Hopetoun, with the heiress of Blackwood in Lanarkshire, whose ancestors held that property by uninterrupted succession from the time of David I., by grant from the Abbey of Kelso.

The extensive barony of Barnbogle and Dalmeny, belonging to the Earl of Rosebery, adjoins the lands of Craigiehall to the north. The spacious park of Dalmeny, in which stands the ruins of Barnbogle Castle, and the mansion, now the residence of the family, built by the present noble proprietor, comprehends the whole area bounded by the road from Cramond Bridge to Newhalls on the south, and between the river Almond on the east, and the Frith of Forth on the north. The grounds which rise from the shore to a considerable elevation, in a constant succession of un-

dulations, are tastefully ornamented with large masses of thriving plantation, so arranged as to afford a rich variety of landscape, and command numberless views of the Frith and surrounding country, which cannot be surpassed for extent or beauty. Barnbogle, the ancient name of the castle and barony, was probably the scene of an hostile engagement, "Bar na-buai-gall," in the Celtic signifying "the point of the victory of strangers," though no tradition now remains of any event of that nature to which it can be traced. The ancient family of Moubray were its first proprietors. They came originally from Normandy with William the Conqueror, and are supposed to be a branch of the noble house of Moubray, Dukes of Norfolk. Philip de Moubray was Lord of Barnbogle, Dalmeny, and Inverkeithing, in the reign of Alexander II., and died in 1221. From him descended Sir John Moubray, who, having no male issue, made a settlement in 1511 of the lands of Cockairney, part of the lordship of Inverkeithing, on his father's brother, William Moubray, whose direct posterity still enjoy that patrimony. The remainder of his property he bequeathed to his only daughter, who, by marrying Robert Barton of Over-Barnton, transmitted it under the family name to their great-grandson, Sir Robert Moubray, the last of that long line who inherited these extensive possessions. Several persons of the name of Moubray, in the humbler walks of life in the parish, are said to be descendants of this ancient family.* The baronies of Barnbogle and Dalmeny were sold by Sir Robert in 1615, to the celebrated Sir Thomas Hamilton, his Majesty's Advocate, afterwards created Earl of Haddington, whose grandson again disposed of them in 1662, to Sir Archibald Primrose, Bart., of Carrington, then Lord-Register, and afterwards Justice-General of Scotland. Sir Archibald entailed his estates on his second son Archibald Primrose of Dalmeny, who, in 1700, was created Viscount, and in 1703, Earl of Rosebery and Lord

* There is in Chambers's Journal, No. 4, February 1832, a curious and interesting legend of a feud between Robert Moubray of Barnbogle, and Bruntfield, laird of Craighouse, which arose in 1572, out of the civil war between the friends of Mary and the adherents of the Regent. It began by the murder of Bruntfield by Moubray, who had espoused the Protestant interest, and had taken forcible possession of the patrimonial estate to the exclusion of his infant niece; and ended in its being avenged by the son of the former in a combat, in which he was slain by young Bruntfield, on Cramond Island, witnessed by his mother, who had previously sacrificed her two elder sons in similar attempts, unsuccessfully made, to satiate her revenge. The victor in this desperate encounter is said to have married the heiress of Barnbogle, who was of course restored to her rightful patrimony; but, as neither the names nor the story appear to accord with the memoranda of the family from which the above account is taken, we cannot give it as authentic.

Dalmeny, whose descendant, the fourth Earl, is the present proprietor.

Family of Rosebery.—Of the early history of the family whom this distinguished nobleman now represents, there are some interesting notices in Crawford's and Douglas's Peerage. They were originally seated at Primrose, near Inverkeithing, and acquired lands in Perthshire and Culross. One of them was principal surgeon to King James, who died in 1615, and was buried in the Greyfriars church-yard, "Plenus annorum et plenus honorum," as his monument bears. He was father of Gilbert Primrose, D.D., who was one of the ministers of the Protestant church of Bordeaux, and afterwards of the French church in London—chaplain in ordinary to James VI. and Charles I.; and finally canon of Windsor in 1682. He left several publications that testified alike to his learning and piety. His son David Primrose had also the reputation of being one of the most learned divines and active promoters of the reformed religion in France. The most distinguished, however, of this excellent family, direct ancestor of the Earls of Rosebery and the founder of their fortunes, was Archibald, the third in descent by a younger son of the first of the lineage above-mentioned. He was first appointed in 1641 clerk of the Privy-Council, and until discharged by the Parliament, was in constant confidential correspondence with the King and Court. Adhering faithfully to the royal cause, he was taken prisoner at the battle of Philiphaugh 1646, tried by the Parliament of St Andrews, and found guilty of high treason. Though his life was spared at the intercession of the Marquis of Argyle and others of his friends, he continued a close prisoner till a capitulation was entered into between Montrose and the Committee of Estates, when, on repairing to Charles at Newark, he had the honour of knighthood conferred on him in consideration of his great services and sufferings. King Charles II., on coming to Scotland in 1651, created him a baronet, "as a special mark of our Royal favour, to gratify the deservings of so faithful a servant." During the Usurpation, Sir Archibald lived in retirement, but on the king's restoration, he was in August 1660, appointed Lord-Register of Scotland, and in June 1661, constituted one of the Senators of the College of Justice by the title of Lord Carrington, and afterwards Lord Justice-General. According to Bishop Burnett, "he possessed a great measure of sagacity and prudence, with expedients always ready for every difficulty." Throughout the changes of that troublous period, he maintained

so high a character for integrity and wisdom, as to have exercised immense influence over the destinies of his country, whose welfare he had deeply at heart; and having acquired an ample fortune, with which he purchased the extensive properties of Barnbogle, Dalmeny, Ochiltree, Carrington, &c., he died on the 27th September 1679, and was interred in a leaden coffin in the cemetery built by him, to the north front of the church of Dalmeny. The plate on the mouth of the catacomb in which his remains are deposited, bears this inscription: “Hæc in capsula in spe resurrectionis consignatur corpus Domini Archibaldi Primrose de Carrington militis baronetti sub augustissimo monarchâ Carlo 1^{mo} Secrete Concilii clerici, a resturato Carlo 2^{do} Regni ab Archivis, deinceps Justitiani Generalis facto functi viij kalend Decembris ætatis 63 anno domini 1679.”

The present Earl, to whose hereditary possessions have been added the estates of Livingstone and Rosebery, in West and Mid Lothian, was born at Barnbogle, 14th October 1783, and has two sons and three daughters, the eldest of whom, Lord Dalmeny, is M. P. for the Stirling burghs. His Lordship is Lord Lieutenant of the county of Linlithgow.

Family of Dundas of Dundas.—The family of Dundas, who hold the portion of the remainder of the parish proper, a large and valuable demesne surrounding the elegant mansion, built by the present proprietor in conjunction with the old baronial castle, is by far the most ancient now extant of any in the parish. Huttred, the first of this remote ancestry, is said, on the authority of a charter from King David I. to the Abbey of Melrose, to have been a son of Gospatrick, grandfather of Gospatrick, first Earl of Dunbar and March. This supposition is confirmed by the circumstance of Helias, the son of Huttred, obtaining a charter of the lands of Dundas from his uncle, Waldevus, son of the first Gospatrick. This charter, which is still in possession of the family, is one of the oldest original private writs in Scotland, and is in the following words: “Waldivus filius Gospatricii omnibus probis hominibus tam futuris quam presentibus, salutem. Sciatis me dedisse et concessisse et hac carta mea confirmasse Helio filio Huttredi Dundas pro servitio dimidii militis, illum et hæredes suos tenendum, de me et hæredibus meis, in feudo et hæreditate in moris, in aquis, in stagnis, in molendinis, in pratis, in pasturis, cum omnibus rectis et divisis et pertinentiis, concedo itaque quia volo et precipio ut iste predictus Helias istam terram habeat et teneat tam

quiete tam libere et tam honorifice ut nullus miles de barone tenet liberius et quietius et honorificentius in tota terra Regis Scotie. His testibus, Joanne filio Orm. Waldevo filio Baldwin Roberto de Sancto Michaelle, Helio de Hadestanden a Willielmo de Copland, Willielmo de Hellebes. Alano Dapifero, Gerardo Milite Joanne de Gragin." This charter, which has no date, must have been granted previous to 1122, in which year, Robertus de Sancto Michaelle, one of the witnesses, was made Bishop of St Andrews. The lands of Dundas continued in the direct male line for twelve generations, when James de Dundas died, without male issue, in 1450, and was succeeded by his brother, Sir Archibald, whose son and successor was several times sent on an embassy to England, and enjoyed the confidence of King James III. to such a degree, that he created him Earl of Forth in 1488; but the patent, though signed, not having passed the King's seal, previous to the death of that unfortunate monarch, was held to be invalid. From this period, the property has again descended in the male line direct through other twelve generations, some of them figuring conspicuously both in the civil and ecclesiastical history of the country, and giving rise to the collateral branches of the families of that name, of Melville, Arniston, Duddingstone, and Carron-hall. The estate had nearly again diverged from this line of succession, on the death of the father of the present proprietor, who perished in command of the Winterton East India-man, on the coast of Madagascar, in August 1792. His son, James Dundas, Esq. the present proprietor, who was born in January following, having, by his wife Lady Mary Duncan, daughter of the Hero of Camperdown, a family of six sons and five daughters, bids fair to transmit this venerable name and inheritance to a late posterity.

Eminent Men.—The only person eminent as an author known to have belonged to this parish, was William Wilkie, born at Echline in 1721. He was first minister of Ratho, and then Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University, where he died in 1772. His principal work, the *Epigoniad*, has been much and justly admired, especially the Episode of Hercules.

Auldcaithy, the portion of the parish lying to the west, as formerly described, appears to have been formerly part of the crown lands, but was along with the lands of Kinneil and Larbert, bestowed by King Robert Bruce in 1324, upon Sir Walter Hamilton of Cadzow, ancestor of the Duke of Hamilton, and continued a long time in that noble family. After passing through the hands

of various proprietors, it was sold by the first Earl of Haddington in 1721, to the Earl of Hopetoun, in whose family it now remains.

Antiquities.—Among the antiquities of this parish, the ancient Castle of Dundas is entitled to a prominent place. It stands in conjunction with the modern mansion on the brow of a craggy hill of that name, which signifies, “the hill of fallow deer,” and from which numerous bones of deer, and others of large dimensions have been dug up. Its precise age cannot now be ascertained, though it is supposed to have stood since the beginning of the eleventh century. Several additions were made to it about 1416, when it was turned into a fortalice by warrant from Robert, Duke of Albany, and by a subsequent one, from James I. in 1424. Its walls, which are very massive, were at that time raised to the height of 75 feet. Its apartments are all arched, and a circular stair leads to the top, which is flat, and surrounded by a battlement, from which the view is magnificent. Immediately under the north front of the present castle, there still stands a stone fountain of most curious workmanship, which originally occupied the centre of a parterre enclosed with walls of hewn stone 12 feet, and of vast thickness, with flights of stairs in the middle, and a banqueting house at each corner. This fountain, which was supplied by water brought in pipes from a distance, is ornamented with numerous figures cut in the stone, and bears on its sides a long inscription in rather doggrel Latin, divided into stanzas, setting forth that the purpose for which it was erected by Sir Walter Dundas, in the year of man’s redemption 1623, and 61st of his age, was to perpetuate his own memory to be an ornament to his country and family,—a gratification to his friends, and a terror to spoilers and depredators, and that the parched garden might be moistened with the water of the fountain. Tradition relates that the cause of this most expensive work was his disappointment at the loss of the barony of Barnbogle, for the purchase of which he had collected a large sum of money, when it fell into the hands of the Earl of Haddington. The expense of it was so enormous, as to involve him in difficulties from which he never recovered. Whilst it was in the course of erection, it is said that he delighted so much in the noise of hewing the stones, that in a fit of sickness, which confined him to his bed, he ordered the masons to perform that operation in his antichamber. At the west end of Queensferry is the ancient monastery of the Carmelite friars, built about

1332 by Sir George Dundas of Dundas. It consists of a square tower with two wings, the one of which is entire, and is now the burial-place of the family. The tower, which was the dwelling-place of the monks, bears the marks of fire. One of the brethren of this monastery was Symon de Cramond, son of the family of Cramond of that Ilk, who, going abroad, rose to the dignity of patriarch of Antioch. Father Hay, in his "*Scotia Sacra*," mentions that there was a monastery of the order of the Holy Trinity at Dalmeny in 1297, and another of the same order at Queensferry.

The small island of Inchgarvey, which signifies rough or rocky island, in the middle of the Frith, between the south and north ferries, is another of the ancient possessions of the family of Dundas. It was granted to John Dundas in 1491 by King James IV. in lieu of his extensive property of Bothkenner, which had been forfeited by his adherence to James III., with power to build a fort upon it, of which he and his heirs were to be perpetual governors, and with the right of levying certain duties on vessels passing up the Frith. In the regency of Albany, during the minority of James V., Inchgarvey* seems to have been employed as a state prison, to which the celebrated Secretary Panter was committed by that weak and tyrannical ruler. When Albany went to France in 1517, he left Inchgarvey, together with Dunbar and Dumbarton, garrisoned with French soldiers, at the charge, and to the great oppression, of the nation. It surrendered to Cromwell in 1651. The fortifications seem from that period to have been much neglected, till Paul Jones appeared in the Frith in 1779, when they were repaired and mounted with four twenty-pounders.

During the late war, when an invasion was threatened from France, it was again repaired, and strengthened with some additional pieces of ordnance, which, together with the batteries on shore sweeping the whole range of the Frith, was judged sufficient to protect the upper part of it from any hostile aggression. Among the antiquities of this parish, not the least remarkable is the parish church, though its early history is unhappily lost in antiquity.

From the style of its architecture, which is Anglo-Norman, and from its striking resemblance to the church of Narcoide, near Carlisle, which was built before the time of William the Conque-

* The charter conveying this island is an autograph of His Majesty. There is also in the possession of the family a letter of James VI. inviting the then representative to the baptism of his son, Charles I., and another from the same monarch requesting the loan of a pair of silk stockings.

ror, but which is greatly its inferior in point of embellishment, we cannot err in referring it at the latest to the tenth or eleventh centuries. It is a very elegant small fabric, all of cut stone, 84 feet long and 25 broad, except at the east end, where it contracts into a semicircle. The pediments of the principal doors and windows are richly carved, resting on single columns with Gothic capitals, and round the upper part of the building there is an embossment of carved faces, all dissimilar and of grotesque appearance. But the chief beauty of the church is in the interior, which has a striking effect on entering from the west, especially from the upper part of the gallery. The body of the church is divided into three parts by two semicircular arches, that over the chancel being so much smaller than the other as to render the perspective peculiarly pleasing. They are both richly ornamented with successive tiers of mouldings of a zigzag or starry shape. This structure was repaired and refitted in 1816, in a manner corresponding to its architectural beauty, though it is to be regretted that so fine and perfect a specimen of that peculiar style of building should be deformed externally by the addition of a modern cemetery for the family of Rosebery, and more recently of a private room belonging to that of Dundas. It seems originally to have formed part of the diocese of St Andrews, and to have been granted during the thirteenth century to the Abbey of Jedburgh, in the reign of William or Alexander II., to which it pertained till the annexation of the church lands to the Crown by James VI. in 1596. From the crown-charter conveying the rights of the lands and barony of Dalmeny, and the fortalice of Barnbogle, with the patronage or "*capallaniæ et altaris Sancti Adamani infra ecclesiam parochialem de Dummany*," it would appear to have been dedicated to St Adaman, as the adjoining parish of Cramond was to St Columba and the Virgin Mary, the right of presenting to all these altars, which were frequently separate endowments, being vested in the family of Moubray. At the door of the church there is a stone-coffin of large dimensions, cut from a single block, and covered both on the lid and sides with hieroglyphics which cannot now be deciphered. It was found near to its present position, in digging a grave belonging to the Stewarts of Craigie, but nothing can be traced of its origin. Coffins of similar material, but of much simpler and ruder construction, have been found in other parts of the parish, one of which is still to be seen with its end projecting from the bank formed by a cut through Craigiehill on the road leading to Kirkliston. It scarcely seems to admit of

doubt, that the great Roman military way, which proceeded from Northumberland by Eildon and Soutra to the Pentland hills, and thence by Ravelston to Cramond, which was evidently a maritime station on the Bodotria, and where numerous vestigia have been discovered, was continued by Barnbogle and Dalmeny through Abercorn to Carriden to the eastern extremity of the wall of Antoninus. About a mile, accordingly, to the west of Queensferry there were, about a century ago, remains to be seen of what was supposed to be "a Roman Speculatorium, consisting of a large carved window, a square pillar, and a considerable quantity of hewn stones, which, it is said, were carried to Dunkirk. There were found here also several silver medals of Marcus Antoninus, with a victory on the reverse; also, the carved handle of a copper vessel, and the bottom of an earthen urn, with the word *adjecti*, the rest obliterated."* At Springfield, a little to the westward of this spot, there was discovered recently, in digging near the house, a skeleton of large size, and a trench of considerable breadth and depth, filled with human bones. A brass pot, and in it a pagan idol, were exhumed near Queensferry, on the lands of Dundas, in 1738, which the workmen, through a mistaken zeal, instantly demolished. Not far from Dundas Castle, there was found also, at a considerable depth between the parallel walls discovered under ground, a Roman coin with the letters *IAN* distinctly inscribed, the rest illegible, and the handle of a vessel supposed to have been a symposium used by the Romans in their sacrifices. About a mile to the west of Barnbogle Castle, on the top of a high sea-bank, is an ancient cairn, called Earl Cairney, of a circular shape, originally 500 feet in circumference, and 24 feet in height, though now considerably dilapidated, which was probably a sepulchral monument.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of the parochial registers is 1628. They are considerably dilapidated, and sometimes irregular, till within the last century; from which time, they have been kept with considerable accuracy.

The patronage of the parish, which was derived in 1540 from the abbot and convent of Jedburgh, has belonged since that period to the barony of Barnbogle, and was vested in Sir Archibald Primrose and his heirs, by the charter conveying to him that property. Since the restoration of the right of patronage by the act of Queen Anne in 1712, it has been uniformly exercised, accord-

* Old Statistical Account.

ingly, by the Earls of Rosebery, under protest from the Earl of Hopetoun, who claimed the right *alternis vicibus*, in virtue of his possession of the parsonage of Auldcathie, which had been united to the parish of Dalmeny in 1618, Lord Binning being then the patron of both. By a judgment of the Court of Session in 1835, the latter nobleman was found to be entitled to the alternate presentation.

Ministers of the Parish.—The earliest incumbent in this parish of whom there is any authentic record, was John Gibbisone, minister of Dalmeny, and parson and vicar of Auldcathie from 1610, where he is said to have succeeded George Lawder of Bass, who united the advantages of patron and parson. Mr Gibbisone seems to have died about 1648, and was succeeded by John Durie, who had been appointed by the presbytery colleague and successor to him in the then united parish. At his death in 1656, Alexander Hamilton was ordained and admitted minister of Dalmeny by a call from the heritors and elders, the act of 1649 abolishing patronage being then in force. He was deprived for nonconformity in 1662, reposed in 1669, and transported to Edinburgh at the Revolution, where he died in 1696, and was buried in Cramond. Charles Gordon, minister of a Presbyterian congregation in Campvere, in Holland, was appointed his successor in September 1691, in virtue also of a call from the heritors and elders, in terms of the act 1690. He was removed to Ashkirk in the same year, and died in 1710. From the date of his translation to 1700, the parish seems to have remained vacant, the rents of the ministers glebe being gifted by the Earl of Rosebery as patron, for the benefit of the poor, and two silver communion cups, bearing the family arms, presented by him for the use of the parish, and now its property, furth of a part of the vacant stipends yet undisposed of." Between 1700 and 1711, John Steedman held the cure. The last appointment previous to the Act 1712, was that of James Nasmyth, who was inducted in 1711, and died at Dalmeny in 1774, in the ninety-first year of his age. Dr Robertson, who was a person of some learning, and furnished the previous Statistical Account of the parish, was settled in 1775, and died at Edinburgh, 15th November 1799. In the following year, James Greig, the late minister, was appointed, and continued till his death in 1829, when the present incumbent was translated from Torphichen.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the united parishes was in 1831, 1291, be-

ing a decrease of 204 from that of 1821. It is almost entirely agricultural, with the exception of about fifty families in the town of Queensferry, (part of which belongs to Dalmeny,) and at New-halls,—who are engaged in fishing and various domestic trades. Amount of population in 1841, 1893.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Most of the farm-houses, and several of the office-houses, are slated; the former generally substantial and commodious, and in some instances elegant. The farms comprise from 80 to upwards of 300 acres; some of them cultivated with a degree of skill and enterprise highly creditable.

The four rotation system is that commonly in use; but, of late years, the grazing of cattle and the better breeds of sheep have thrown a much larger portion into pasture than formerly,—a practice which is found not only to yield a better immediate return than a constant succession of white and green crops, but greatly to improve the land, and render it more productive. The parish is now almost universally drained according to the improved mode of placing the drains in every alternate furrow, at the distance of thirty-six feet apart, the tenant paying, besides the carriages, a per centage during his lease, on the outlay of the landlord. The soil of the higher grounds, which is chiefly clay on a cold bottom, bordering in some places on till, passes in its descent to the lower grounds into the richest loam. One field, in particular, known by the name of the Kirk Park, is so exceedingly fertile, as to have acquired the distinction of “perpetual soil.” The minister’s garden, which is of the same quality, and immediately adjoins it, is said to have produced abundant crops of potatoes and other vegetables, for six or seven years successively, without manure.

The number of acres in the parish is about 5850 imperial, of which about 1000 belong to the estate of Craigiehall, 2600 to that of Dalmeny, 1600 to that of Dundas, and 650 to that of Hopetoun. This last portion is chiefly in the disjoined part, called Auldcathy, of which the Earl of Hopetoun is the sole proprietor. The portion of it actually under the plough, which may be stated at 4000 acres imperial, is let on leases of nineteen years, at a rent of from L.1, 5s. to L.3, averaging L.2, 3s. 6d., payable for the most part in money and grain. The pasture, which may amount to 1000 acres, about 700 of which are within the grounds of Dalmeny Park, is let annually at from L. 2 to L.2, 10s. per imperial acre. There are under wood about 850

acres, including that on the extensive policies of the respective proprietors, and the double hedge-rows of trees that line most of the parish roads, and subdivide several of the farms, adding much to the richness and beauty of the landscape, though perhaps not to its productiveness. The wood consists principally of oak, ash, elm, plane, and beech and fir, of about eighty years' growth; though some of it, which is of large dimensions and of the finest quality, may have stood upwards of two centuries.

The gross rental of the portions of the parish under cultivation may be estimated at L.8700, and in pasture at L.2250. The valued rent is L.9598, 10s. 10d. Scots, thus allocated:—

The Earl of Rosebery,	L.4004	2	7	
Mr Dundas of Dundas,	2190	8	6	
Mr Hope Vere of Craigiehall,	1905	12	7	
The Earl of Hopetoun,	1066	13	4	} Both now Hopetoun.
Earl of Rosebery,	990	18	0	
Queensferry Acres, &c.	40	12	6	

The produce may average three quarters wheat, five quarters barley, and six quarters oats; a large proportion of the land on each farm being regularly under turnip crop, which is partly eat off by sheep, and partly used for feeding cattle.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages.—There are no villages of any extent within the parish, the greater part of the population, not purely agricultural, or attached to the establishments of the large proprietors being resident in the two ends of the town of Queensferry amounting to nearly 400.

The small village of Dalmeny, which is delightfully situated nearly in the centre of the parish, on the road leading westward to Dundas, and commanding a view of the Frith of Forth, consists only of about a dozen of cottages, besides the church, manse, and school-house, with a green in the middle.

Roads, &c.—The parish roads are generally excellent; the Great North Road from Edinburgh, unequalled perhaps in Britain for its width and condition, entering it at Cramond Bridge, an elegant structure erected at great expense over the Almond, in the year 1821. It terminates at Newhalls, where there is a good and commodious inn. From this place the steam-passage-boats sail to North Queensferry every hour between sunrise and sunset, returning from the opposite side at each intermediate half-hour. The fares, which are generally considered high, are, for each passenger, 6d.; for a horse, 1s.; a two-wheeled carriage, 2s. 6d.; a four-wheeled do. 7s. 6d.; and for cattle, 6d. a-head; and for

sheep, 2s. per score. They are let by public roup at present for three years, at a rent of L.1900,—a sum which has been gradually increasing, notwithstanding the general establishment of steam conveyance to Dundee and Aberdeen, but which will probably suffer a diminution, should the plan now projecting, of building a deep water pier at Burntisland, in conjunction with that lately erected at Granton, and communicating with a railway northwards, be carried into effect. At present, the North Mail, the Defiance to Aberdeen, the Coburg to Perth, and the Antiquary to Dunfermline and Crieff, from Edinburgh, cross and recross daily.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is conveniently situated for the parish proper, and is seated for about 350 persons. There is also a Dissenting meeting-house in the west end of the town of Queensferry, in connection with the United Associate Synod, which draws its supplies to the amount of about 500, from five adjacent parishes. Of these there are between twenty and thirty families belonging to the parish of Dalmeny. The rest are, or profess to be, in communion with the Church. The number of actual communicants is in summer about 250, and in winter somewhat less. The attendance may be termed good, though the church is considerably too small for the amount of the population.

The stipend, which was allocated in 1823, consists of 17 chalders victual, half barley and half oatmeal, at the Linlithgow fiars prices, with L.8, 6s. 8d. Sterling for communion elements. Originally, the teinds of the parish, as given up at a judicial court of the abbey of Jedburgh in 1626 were 20 chalders victual, whereof were to be paid to the minister two chalders and 400 merks.

Education.—There is a Sabbath school taught in the church during the summer months by the clergyman, while a number of the people attend as hearers; and another at Cramond Bridge throughout the whole year, supported by the Christian liberality of a lady not immediately connected with the parish,—and taught by one or other of the agents of the Edinburgh Gratis Sabbath School Society.

The parochial school, which is the only one in the parish, is well attended. It has long been celebrated as a healthful and desirable place for boarders, of whom the present schoolmaster still receives a limited number. The salary is the maximum of L.34, 4s. 8½d., with L.300 Sterling mortified by Lady Grizell Semple in 1723. This sum is vested at the instance of the Earl of Rosebery and the minister for the time being, as trustees for behoof of

the school, and the annual interest paid to the schoolmaster on condition of his teaching gratuitously as many poor children as the trustees or kirk-session may choose to send. Lord Rosebery is also in terms of this grant entitled to present to the office when it becomes vacant. The fees are 2s. 6d. for reading, 5s. for other branches, and 7s. 6d. for Latin, Greek, French, and mathematics. The school-house and dwelling-house are commodious and comfortable. The manse and offices are in good repair; the latter neatly built for the present incumbent; the former nearly a century old, of plain construction and moderate dimensions.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The two ends of Queensferry, as may be supposed, contain almost all the pauperism of the parish, which, from the causes above-mentioned, is in large proportion to the amount of the population. The average number of paupers on the parish roll receiving supply regularly or occasionally is 35. In the summer months, several of them are cut off, and the annual expenditure for this department is L.90 Sterling. The funds are derived from collections at the church-door, amounting to from L.20 to L.30 yearly; rent of land held in perpetual lease by the Earl of Rosebery to a similar amount, according to the fiars' price of oatmeal; a sum of L.135, lent on bond; and a voluntary assessment by the heritors for what may be short of the sum required for the poor and other parochial expenses. Besides this regular provision for the poor, those of them who live in the suburbs of the parish of Queensferry are entitled to a share of the annual produce of a large bequest of L.5000 by a Mr Meek, a native of that place, who left it for the common behoof of both parishes, under the management of the kirk-session of the latter. There is also the interest of a sum of L.200 Sterling, bequeathed by James Davidson, Esq. son of a former schoolmaster of Dalmeny, not intermixed in any way with the parochial funds, but distributed at the instance of trustees named in his deed of settlement. To these benefactions, the Earl of Rosebery adds yearly the liberal sum of L.20, to be laid out in the purchase chiefly of coals and meal during the winter, with an unlimited discretion to the minister of expending, at his Lordship's charge, whatever more may be needful, to provide for unforeseen contingencies,—an example which reflects the highest credit on the benevolence of that distinguished nobleman, and which, if generally followed throughout the country, would greatly enhance the comforts, and elevate the character of the deserving poor.

April 1843.

PARISH OF ECCLESMACHAN.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. JOHN SMITH, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of this parish, so far back as can be traced, has been written Ecclesmachan. It is usually pronounced Inchmachan, a custom, apparently, of considerable antiquity; for in a list of parishes existing in 1581, and contained in “the Booke of the Universal Kirk,” it stands Inchmachame. Of this name, various Celtic etymologies have been proposed, but none of them appear satisfactory. The most probable is that assigned in the former Statistical Report, viz. Ecclesia Machani, or, in Gaelic, *Eaglais Machan*, “the Church of Machan.” In Keith’s Calendar of Scots Saints is mentioned a St Machan, who, it is said, died about the middle of the ninth century. What connection he had with this part of the country, it is presumed, cannot now be ascertained.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish is divided into two unequal portions, distant about one mile from each other, and separated by an outlying district of Linlithgow parish. The western division is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ broad; the eastern division is $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles long, by $1\frac{1}{2}$ broad; and the extreme points are nearly 5 miles from each other. The extent in square miles is 3.83, or 2458 imperial acres. The outline is very irregular. It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Abercorn and Linlithgow; on the west, by Bathgate; on the south, by Livingstone and Uphall; and, on the east, by Kirkliston and Auldscathie, a detached portion of Dalmeny parish.

Topographical Appearances.—The two sections are each composed of a ridge of land. That on the west is the higher, ascending, perhaps, to the height of 600 feet, intersected in several places by shallow ravines, and sloping chiefly to the south. The eastern ridge is lower, having on its southern edge a pretty steep

acclivity, called the Tar Hill, or perhaps the Tor Hill. The climate in the upper district is cold; but in general it is salubrious, and, so far as has been observed, is not marked by any epidemical peculiarities. Several small streams, tributaries of the Almond, flow eastward through the parish.

Geology.—The district is on the edge of the great Lothian coal-field, and it appears that coal was formerly worked in various places on the north. Sandstone occurs on most of the farms. The most prominent rocks are of trap, which seem to have disturbed greatly the strata in this neighbourhood. In the vicinity of these are found immense beds of indurated clay, interspersed occasionally with seams of clay-ironstone. The upper soil, which is chiefly formed from decomposed trap and indurated clay, is heavy, and highly retentive of moisture. From the trap rocks of the Tar Hill issues a spring, weakly impregnated with sulphuretted hydrogen. It is called the Bullion Well, and, though formerly visited by invalids, is now neglected.

From the uniform nature of the soil, and the extent of tillage, the vegetation of this parish, though repeatedly examined, has been found to exhibit nothing peculiar. On the western heights, some of the subalpine mosses, such as *Trichostomum canescens*, and *T. heterostichum*, occur.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—Mr Alexander Hamilton, the first minister of this parish after the Revolution, was a man of distinguished talent and courage. It is said, that when a student, he took down the head of the celebrated James Guthrie from the Netherbow Port of Edinburgh, where it had stood a public spectacle for many years; and numerous stories are still current among the old people here about his skill as a swordsman, before he became a minister. He was translated first to Airth, and subsequently to Stirling, and was deeply involved in the “Marrow Controversy.”

The estate of Bangour gave designation to William Hamilton, Esq. a celebrated Scottish poet, in the early part of the last century. He was descended from one of the ancient families of the name of Hamilton, once numerous in the county of Linlithgow; but whether he was born in this parish, or indeed resided in it, the writer has not ascertained. In his youth he distinguished himself by numerous songs, and among these, “the Braes of Yarrow,” published in the “Tea Table Miscellany.” He is said

to have been a man of elegant accomplishments, and of amiable manners. His poems are thus characterized by no mean judge, the late Lord Woodhouselee: "Hamilton's mind is pictured in his verses. They are the easy and careless effusions of an elegant fancy and a chastened taste; and the sentiments they convey are the genuine feelings of a tender and susceptible heart, which perpetually owned the dominion of some favourite mistress, but whose passion generally evaporated in song, and made no serious or permanent impression." Having entertained Jacobite predilections, he was engaged in the Rebellion in 1745; but, after a few years of exile, contrived to make his peace with the Government, and returned home. In 1754, he died at Lyons, in the fiftieth year of his age, leaving behind him, besides some unpublished pieces, a volume of poetry, which has been repeatedly inserted in collections of the British Poets. His patrimonial estate is now in the possession of his great grandson, James Hamilton, Esq. of Bangour and Ninewar, in East Lothian.

The late incumbent of this parish, the Rev. Henry Liston, deserves to be noticed among its few eminent men. He had a strong natural turn for mechanics and music. He was equally distinguished for his scientific and classical attainments, and was in many other respects a man of genius. With talents adapted for a far wider sphere of usefulness, he spent his whole ministerial life of more than forty-two years in this secluded spot, endeared to his numerous friends by great warmth of heart and simplicity of character. His son is now a celebrated surgeon in London.

Parochial Registers.—These exist in nearly unbroken sequence from 1662. The oldest, which is written in a fair hand, is entitled "Episcopall Discipline exercised by the Kirk-Session of Ecclesmachan." On the 28th of March 1683, it is minuted, "Mr John Moubray, according to the appointment of the presbytery, preached, and thereafter gave institution to Mr William Smairt to the ministry in this place, and the rest of the brethren off the presbytery gave the said Mr William the right hand off fellowship." The only other noticeable peculiarity is a commission from the Bishop of Edinburgh, in exercise of the civil power now vested in presbyteries, to certain ministers, authorizing them to visit and report on the manse and kirk of Ecclesmachan. The registers, subsequent to the Revolution, are kept in the usual form, and contain nothing remarkable.

Land-owners.—The proprietors are, the Earl of Hopetoun;

James Hamilton, Esq. of Bangour; Robert Warden, Esq. of Blackcraig; the Earl of Buchan also possesses a small pendicle of land. There is no country seat, nor any resident heritor in the parish.

III.—POPULATION.

The population has probably diminished during the course of the last century, chiefly on account of the union of small farms, and the decay of the villages. There is now scarcely an individual in the parish who is not directly or indirectly employed in agriculture. The following table will show the variations at the several dates. We cannot account for the smallness of the number in 1792.

The population in 1755, according to Dr Webster, was	330
1792, former Statistical Account,	215
1801, Government census,	303
1811, Do.	267
1821, Do.	303
1831, Do.	299
1841, Government census,	303

The last amount was partially increased by an influx of railway labourers. A private census in 1839, which ascertained only 263 inhabitants, gave the following results: Persons under fifteen years of age, 103; between fifteen and thirty, 76; between thirty and fifty, 55; between fifty and seventy, 19; above seventy, 10. The number of unmarried men above fifty, 6; number of unmarried women and widows above forty-five, 10. There are 51 families. The average number of children in families where there are any, is 3. The number of inhabited houses is 50; uninhabited, 4. For the last three years, the average number of births is seven annually; of deaths, two; of marriages, one. In these three years have been born three illegitimate children.

Forty-one families and 220 individuals belong to the Established Church; ten families and 43 individuals are attached to the Dissenters. Of these are eleven farmers, three blacksmiths, two carpenters, one mason, one tailor, two weavers, and ten day labourers. The rest of the males, and many of the females, are employed in agriculture. For many years past, there has not been a public-house in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The whole parish has been enclosed mostly by hedge and ditch, and only a few acres in it have never been subjected to the plough. The whole surface employed in tillage and pasture, little of which is permanent, may be estimated at 2310

imperial acres. On many of the farms, the most improved system of husbandry has been introduced; much, however, remains to be done in the way of draining. In the western district of the parish, where, on account of the elevation, wheat is seldom or never grown, the usual rotation of crop is the following: oats green crop or fallow; barley or oats; hay; pasture for one or two years. In the lower district, on heavy land, the crops are usually arranged thus: fallow, wheat, beans, barley, hay or pasture, oats; and, on the drier soils, thus, oats, turnip, barley, hay or pasture. In general, the tenant is restricted only to the extent that he is not permitted to take two green crops in succession without manuring each of them. Throughout the whole of this country, there is an inclination to diminish the green crop, and to return to the old fallow system.

With the exception of two or three, the farms are all under 150 imperial acres. They are all let on leases of nineteen years. The maximum rent is about L.2 the Scotch acre, and the minimum, L.1, 5s. The average rent is about L.1, 10s. the Scotch acre. On the Earl of Hopetoun's property, the rent is paid chiefly by the value of grain, ascertained from the annual fairs of Linlithgowshire. The gross average rental of the parish is about L.2845. It may be worth while to add, that the annual value of real property, as assessed by Government in 1815, was L.3051.

Live-Stock.—The rearing of cattle is not pursued to any great extent; but a few short-horned bulls have been introduced, and between them and the Ayrshire breed, a valuable cross has been obtained, which is likely to be cultivated with success. Most of the grass is depastured, and the green crop consumed by Highland or Angus-shire oxen, purchased at the northern fairs, or by black-faced sheep procured from the same quarter.

Produce.—The following may be taken as an estimate of the gross value of products from land in ordinary years:

Grain,	L.5225
Green crop, including beans,	1100
Hay,	765
Pasture,	870
	<hr/>
	L.7960

Plantations.—There are about 130 imperial acres of growing wood. It is mostly young, and little or none of it has ever been brought to the market. A considerable part of it was planted by the late Robert Warden, Esq., who thereby greatly improved and adorned his estate of Blackcraig. Shelter is still wanted in some quarters of the parish.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages.—There is scarcely a village in the parish, the hamlet at the church containing only eighteen houses.

Post-Office.—The nearest post-office is at Uphall, which is distant little more than a mile.

Market-Towns.—The markets frequented by the farmers are those of Linlithgow and Bathgate, which are about five miles respectively from the centres of the two districts of the parish.

Means of Communication.—The road from Edinburgh to Falkirk passes through the northern extremity for about half a mile, and the middle Glasgow road nearly touches the southern border. The parish roads are kept in excellent repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situate in the southern corner of the smallest section of the parish; but in the most convenient position possible for the generality of the inhabitants. It was in a great measure rebuilt in the beginning of last century, and having undergone a thorough repair in 1822, it is at present in excellent order, and is neat and comfortable. It is provided with 153 sittings, which might easily be increased, if required, to about 200. It is about four miles by the road from the most distant house. Considering the smallness of the population, the attendance is generally good. The manse is supposed to have been built about 1606; but an addition was made in 1800; and though the accommodation is not extensive, it is, on the whole, sufficiently comfortable. The glebe and garden contain about four and a-half Scotch acres of good ground. The stipend consists of 58 bolls, 3 firlots, 3 lippies of oatmeal; 58 bolls, 3 firlots, 3 lippies of barley; and L.146, 11s. of money. In the Report of the Religious Instruction Commissioners, it is valued at L.256, 11s. 8d., from an average of five years previous to 1836. The same report valued the unexhausted teind at L.140, 11s. 1d.

Education.—The parish school and school-house, recently rebuilt, are in good order. The teacher has the maximum salary; but the fees are small, and sometimes not well paid. The average attendance may be about 50 scholars, who are instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic. On the extreme border of the parish, where it meets those of Uphall and Livingstone, a school was erected by the late Robert Warden, Esq., to whom the parochial institutions were, in many respects, beholden. Though highly useful in the locality, its attendance has fluctuated much; and it would be greatly benefited by an endowment. In summer,

it is used as a preaching station in the Sabbath evenings. Every person in the parish, of suitable age, is able to read. It is not ascertained that they can all write.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—At present there are three paupers on the roll; viz. an aged woman, who receives 5s. a month, an illegitimate child, and a lunatic confined in a private asylum. The heritors support the latter by private assessment. A few receive occasional assistance. The ordinary collections amount to about L.11, and there is, besides, the sum of L.2, 12s. per annum, the interest of bonded money. Hitherto, there has been no legal assessment; but, it is feared, that one may at length become necessary, from the demand of aliment for illegitimate children, to which this parish, owing to the shifting habit of its youthful population, and other unfavourable circumstances, is much exposed.

April 1843,

PARISH OF LIVINGSTONE.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN & TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES M. ROBERTSON, MINISTER.

THE REV. JOHN LAING, *Assistant and Successor.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent, &c.—THE length of the parish is between 4 and 5 miles from west to east, and it is nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile in breadth at each end, but contracts in the middle to about half a mile. It contains 4463 Scotch acres. It is bounded on the north-west by Bathgate and Ecclesmachan; on the east, by Uphall and Mid-Calder; on the south-east, by Mid-Calder; south, by West Calder, from which two parishes it is separated by the Ammon and the Brieck waters; and, on the west, by Whitburn.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface of the parish, though much varied, does not rise into any very distinct eminence, except one in the north-east corner, in the lands of Knightsridge, called Dechmont Law, or Knightsridge Hill. Though only 686 feet above the level of the sea, it commands a very extensive prospect. The climate, though rather moist, is favourable to health.

The Ammon (which rises in the upper parts of Lanarkshire,

and after a circuitous and somewhat rapid course in a north-easterly direction, falls into the Frith of Forth at the village of Cramond,) is, in this parish, except for the purposes of mills, a very insignificant stream in general, but when flooded, rises so as to be almost magnificent, and increases in breadth to the great injury of its banks.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The Brieck water has in its course gradually made several deep sections of the circumjacent strata. These are of the coal formation, such as clays, slate-clays, &c. In the bed of the river quantities of boulders appear. The most striking natural feature of the parish is the eminence commonly called Dechmont Law, which, with the surrounding ridges, of which it is the apex, are of the trap-rock formation. The greenstone of the summit is succeeded by compact basalt lower down, and at the foot of the eastern side, fine blue shale appears. Coal and limestone abound at its eastern side, and thus, from its close connection with strata of the coal formation, it bears a striking analogy to the larger trap formation of Arthur's Seat, &c.

A lake-stone rock, in the western part of the parish, is supposed to be fifty feet thick, dips one in every three feet to the north-west, and rises to the south-east. The lime, coal, and sandstone near it dip with equal rapidity, and in the same direction as the lake-stone. Sandstone is to be found in various directions, and from twelve to twenty feet thick.

Lime, coal, and whinstone abound over almost all the parish, but hitherto they have not been very successfully worked.

Botany.—Dechmont Law is in summer beautifully adorned with the yellow mountain-violet (*Viola lutea*,) and white saxifrage (*Saxifraga granulata*.) In a wood west from Livingstone village, the elegant lesser winter-green (*Pyrola minor*) occurs. On the banks of a small stream half a mile above it, the great leopard's bane (*Doronicum Pardalianches*) is met with; and in the woods to the north, *Habenaria bifolia*, *Listera ovata*, and *Hypericum hirsutum* are frequently seen.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—Patrick Murray, Baron of Livingstone, well deserves to have his memory recorded. Living about the middle of the seventeenth century, this young nobleman, in possession of an ample fortune, turned his attention to the study of natural history, and, not contented with forming at his own country-seat a botanic garden consisting of one thousand species of plants, a great col-

lection in those infant days of the science, he traversed foreign countries with a view to increase it. Having gone over the whole of France, he was, on his way to Italy, cut off by a fever, much to the prejudice of natural history in Scotland, and deeply regretted by those friends who could estimate the worth of character displayed by a youth, who, in the uncontrolled possession of an abundant fortune, could steadily devote himself to a praiseworthy pursuit.

Patrick Murray had been the friend and pupil of Sir Andrew Balfour, who, after his death, had his plants transported to Edinburgh, where, joining them to his own, Sir Andrew laid the foundation of the first botanic garden in that city.

Land-owners.—These are, the Earl of Rosebery; John Pitcairn, Esq., Nether Dechmont; William Wilson, Esq., Dechmont; Alexander Gray, Esq., Knightsridge; Misses Burd, Seafield; William Erskine, Esq., Blackburn House; Robert Forsyth, Esq., Redhouse; Thomas Balfour, Esq., Murrayfield; Heirs of William Baird, Westwood; Heirs of the Rev. Mr Kennedy, Brieche.

Parochial Registers.—Parochial registers were begun in 1696, and have been regularly kept since, but, owing to the smallness of the parish, are not voluminous.

Antiquities.—The house, or, as it was anciently called, the peel of Livingstone, was a fortified castle surrounded by a wet ditch about thirty feet wide, having a rampart of earth within; more than three-fourths of this ditch and rampart remained entire till nearly the middle of last century. The more modern house of Livingstone was pulled down by the present proprietor, the Earl of Rosebery, soon after his purchasing the principal part of the barony. About half a mile north-east of its site is the farm-house of New-Year Field: here, within these sixty years, stood the remains of a square tower, said to have been a hunting-seat of the Kings of Scotland, and frequented by them while Linlithgow was their stated residence, not only for amusement, but for the benevolent exercise of their prerogative of touching for the scrofula, for which disease the water of a spring-well adjoining was considered a specific, when applied by a royal hand upon the morning of New Year's Day before sunrise. As no cures are recorded, may not we conjecture that the real benefit was inducing both monarch and subjects to practise early rising and morning ablutions, though as-

surely the substituting midsummer for the New-Year would seem to be an improvement on the plan.

A field, called Maukes Hill, which, being intersected by the Ammon, is partly in that and partly in Mid-Calder parish, is considered as a battle-field of long past years, but, as the tumuli containing stone-coffins, skeletons, and all that gives verisimilitude to the conjecture, have mostly been found in the part belonging to Mid-Calder, the elucidation of this somewhat obscure matter belongs more properly to the account of that parish.

III.—POPULATION.

The former Statistical Account gives the population in 1755 to be 598. The state of the population afterwards is as follows :

1801,	-	551
1811,	-	879
1831,	-	1035
1841,	-	1004

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The whole of the parish is cultivated or in pasture, except about 500 acres. There are not 200 acres of moss which may yet be drained and planted. From 250 to 300 acres are under wood, viz. spruce, larch, and Scotch fir, with a few hard-wood trees intermixed. Great attention is paid to the management of the plantations, particularly upon Lord Rosebery's estates, where likewise they are most extensive, and where the yearly thinings are found very profitable.

Rent.—The rent of land is believed to be about L.1, 4s. per acre.

The Ayrshire and Teeswater milch cows are commonly kept, often crossed with other breeds. The general character of the husbandry is a regular rotation of white and green crops, and then the land is laid down for pasture. Nineteen years is the duration of the common lease.

Quarries and Mines.—There are lime, whinstone, and sandstone quarries. The lake-stone quarry, on the property of James Scales, Esq. in the vicinity of Blackburn village, which has been wrought for many years, is much famed for supplying excellent floors for ovens. It has hitherto given employment to six men in hewing and quarrying, and is sent to all parts of the country for nearly thirty miles round. Quarry now given up for encroaching on the public road. The limestone on the same property is six feet thick, and lies upon a bed of slaty sandstone, called by the workmen "blaes," four feet thick above the coal, which is like-

wise four feet in thickness ; but the working of the coal and limestone have been given up for a number of years, the dip being so great as to make it unproductive.

Manufactures.—There is a cotton spinning-mill at Blackburn, which employs about 120 men, women, and children above ten years of age.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is no market-town in the parish. The nearest is Mid-Calder, at the distance of two miles. There are two villages, Livingstone in the east, and Blackburn in the west of the parish.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated on the border of Mid-Calder, about half a-mile from the eastern extremity of Livingstone parish. It is very inconveniently situate for at least three-fourths of the population. The church was rebuilt in 1732, and is in very tolerable repair. It affords accommodation for about 300 people. The only free sittings are at the communion-table, which remains standing along the length of the church.

The manse was built in 1803, at the accession of the present incumbent, and, being substantially built, has since received only trifling repairs. The glebe consists of six acres of land, valued at L.3 per acre. The amount of stipend, as allocated by the Teind Court, is 10 bolls bear, and 23 bolls meal, and L. 188, 5s. 1½d.; but, owing to some part of the teind being claimed by Whitburn, formerly a part of this parish, the stipend is not fully paid.

There is a Dissenting chapel in the village of Blackburn, belonging to the Independent persuasion. The minister is paid from the seat-rents and collections at the door. It is but thinly attended, and is believed to have only 11 joined members.

Three hundred and fourteen males, and 322 females, are considered as belonging to the Established Church. The number regularly attending is too fluctuating to be exactly ascertained.

One hundred and eighty-nine males, and 180 females, belong to the United Secession ; 4 males, and 5 females, to the Church of England ; 9 males, and 12 females, to the Church of Rome. 160 is the average number of communicants in the parish church.

Education.—Number of schools, 2 ; 1 parochial and 1 unendowed. The parochial teacher has the maximum salary, with the legal accommodations of dwelling-house, school-house, and garden.

A Sabbath school and parish library was set on foot in the village of Livingstone four years ago. It consists of nearly 300 well selected volumes, and is supported by subscription, and much prized by the population.

Friendly Society.—A Friendly Society was established in Blackburn in the year 1799, which has been of much benefit to its members, whose numbers are 30 at present, and their stock amounts to L. 125 Sterling.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There are 27 persons on the roll of poor. The average weekly allowance is 1s. 6d.

Inns.—There are five public-houses in the parish, and three small shops in which spirits are retailed.

Fuel.—The fuel in general use is from Benhar coal-work, about four miles from the western extremity of the parish. The coal is of first-rate quality, and costs 5s. 6d. per ton on the bill.

April 1843.

PARISH OF BORROWSTOWNNESS.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. KENNETH MACKENZIE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

BORROWSTOWNNESS has become the prevailing name of the united parishes of Kinneil and Borrowstownness, although Kinneil was the original parish, and the other existed as a separate parish, only twenty years.

Name and Situation.—The town of Borrowstownness, commonly pronounced and written Bo'ness, owes its name to its locality, being situated on a point of land, or *ness*, projecting into the Frith of Forth, and about three-quarters of a mile north from the village of Borrowstown, formerly Burwardstoun.

Extent, Boundaries, &c.—The parish is of a triangular form, extending about four miles from east to west, the medium breadth from north to south being about two miles. The superficial extent is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ square miles. It is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth; on the east by the parish of Carriden; on the south and west by the parish of Linlithgow, and by the river Avon, which separates it from the parishes of Muiravonside and Polmont.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface of the parish is uneven, excepting the Carse of Kinneil. The highest part is in the south-east angle, which rises to an elevation of about 520 feet above the Frith. From this eminence, called Irongath Hill, or

Glour o'er 'em, the surface slopes gradually to the banks of the Avon, on the south and west. On the north the slope terminates abruptly in a steep bank, which extends the whole length of the parish, varying in elevation and in its distance from the shore, and is beautifully wooded from Kinneil House to the Avon. From the top of Glour o'er 'em, the admirer of nature may enjoy one of the finest views in Scotland.

Meteorology.—The climate, though variable, is remarkably salubrious.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth is about two miles and a-half broad between Bo'ness and Culross, and about three miles broad between the mouth of the Avon and Culross. In the middle of the channel between these places, the depth is from five to nine fathoms. Between Bo'ness and Preston Island, the depth is about four fathoms and a-half, and gradually increases to seventeen and upwards towards Queensferry. Above Bo'ness the depth of mid-channel diminishes to three fathoms towards Grangemouth. Preston Island lies near the north shore; and the south side of the channel being free from rocks, the navigation is safe, and the anchorage is good off the Port of Bo'ness. Between Bo'ness and Grangemouth the Frith is shallow, and, at ebb-tide, the water recedes to a considerable distance from the shore, leaving a great extent of muddy surface, through which the stream of the Avon passes in a channel which is variable. There is a rise of not less than 25 feet of water in the middle of the Frith at high spring tides. At Bo'ness it is full and changes about three o'clock; and it is high water nearly eight minutes later than at Leith.

The influence of the river Avon, and other tributaries, on the water of the Frith, is perceptible in the production of salt, as might be expected from the diminution of specific gravity.

Specific gravity of surface water, taken from the middle of the Frith, off Bo'ness, after a long continuation of rain:

High water, specific gravity, 1.0206, at $57\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit.

Low water, specific gravity, 1.0190, at 57° Fahrenheit.

Specific gravity of surface water after a long duration of fair weather:

High water, specific gravity, 1.02329, at $56\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit.

Low water, specific gravity, 1.02234, at $56\frac{1}{4}^{\circ}$ Fahrenheit.

The river Avon, which forms the western boundary of the parish, and has its sources in the high parts of the parishes of Falkirk and Slamannan, is a considerable stream, having a copious supply of water, and a considerable fall between Linlithgow Bridge and its discharge into the Frith. Several mills have been erected

on its banks, but three only are in operation at present in the parish, and belong to the Duke of Hamilton. Two of these are grain-mills; the third was erected for grinding malt for the brewers in Bo'ness, but is employed at present for grinding flint for the pottery.

The Dean or Den Burn, and the Gil Burn, two streamlets running in ravines near Kinneil House, add to the beauty of the scenery, but are too small for any mechanical advantage.

The number of coal-pits sunk in the neighbourhood has rendered the supply of water in the town scanty; but there are several good springs in the landward part of the parish. One of these, at a small distance from the town, affords a copious supply of excellent water, part of which is conveyed to the town in pipes.*

Geology and Mineralogy.—The strata in this parish are all of the coal formation. They lie with considerable regularity, and in general dip to the west, at the rate of from one in six, to one in ten. There is no appearance of trap dikes passing through the seams of coal, except at the south-east corner of the parish, where Irongath Hill, or Glour o'er 'em, appears protruded through them. There is a great quantity of apparently trap rock lying in beds in the strata; and though there is a considerable number of dikes or slips in the strata, almost all running nearly east and west, these slips seldom alter the quality of the coal.

A general section of the strata at the Snab, a site lately spoken of as the best for a new winning of the coal-field (the present being considerably exhausted), may be stated as follows:—

From surface.	Thickness of seams of coal. Feet.	Thickness of earthy strata. Fath.	From surface.	Thickness of seams of coal. Feet.	Thickness of earthy strata. Fath.
Sandstone and shale, say	0	15 ⁹	Section brought forward,	30 ¹ / ₂	137
Coal, local name (Monthunger,)	3 ¹ / ₂	0	Coal. (red,)	3	0
Sandstone and shale, about	0	35	Shale, sandstone, and ironstone,	0	16
Coal, (splinty)	3	0	Coal, local name (fowl,)	5 ¹ / ₂	0
Sandstone and shale,	0	11	Sandstone and shale,	0	12
Coal, (Corbyhall,)	5	0	Coal, (Easter Main,)	5	0
Sandstone and shale,	0	8	Shale and sandstone,	0	12
Coal, (seven-foot,)	6	0	Coal, (smithy,)	2 ¹ / ₂	0
Sandstone and shale,	0	11	Shale,	0	2
Coal, local name (Little,)	2	0	Coal,—(Caursay,)	2	0
Sandstone and shale,	0	8		48 ¹ / ₂	179
Coal, (Wester Main,)	11	0	Add thickness of coals to stoney strata,		8 ¹ / ₂
Shale and sandstone,	0	49		0	187 ¹ / ₂
	30 ¹ / ₂	137			

* The mineral water mentioned by Sir Robert Sibbald is at present scarcely noticed, although it has given the name *Well o' Spa* to a locality near the west end of Bo'ness.

No coal has ever been found in this district under the Caursay coal ; and as these lowest correspond closely with the lowest seams in the Fife strata, it may be safely inferred, that there are no workable seams below this one. It is remarkable, however, that the limestone, which, on the Fife side, makes its appearance about 85 fathoms under the lowest seam, does not appear in Carriden, where these lowest seams crop out to the surface.

Above the strata mentioned in the section, to the west of the Snab takes on one or two inferior seams of coal, which were partially wrought in former times, when the duty was on the salt, for the salt-pans. And further to the westward (at Craiginbuck,) takes on a seam of limestone, which at one time was wrought, affording an excellent building mortar. This seam appears to be the same as that on the opposite side of the Forth, at Blair House, which was wrought three years ago.

Some fine specimens of petrification have been found in a bed of sandstone, on the east bank of the Avon, near Inneravon.

A remarkable bed of shells has long been known to exist in the bank near Inneravon. By recent excavations in various parts of the bank, between Inneravon and Kinneil House, the bed of shells appears to be continuous between these two places. It consists chiefly of oyster shells. A species of muscle shell is seen in some places ; and in one place, part of the mass is petrified.

Large trees have been found deeply imbedded in the mud in the Carse ; and horns and bones of deer and other animals have been found, about twelve feet below the surface, in the excavations for the bridge lately built across the Avon.

Botany.—Bo'ness parish, although of limited extent, exhibits rather a numerous Flora, including a large proportion of the whole plants of Linlithgowshire, some of which appear to be confined within its limits.

On taking a general view of the botany of the county, there is not perhaps much, excluding the Cryptogamia, which has not been found in the rich neighbouring district of Edinburgh ; while many of the more interesting plants of the coast disappear westward, and those of the higher range of the Pentlands are not met with on the less elevated hills of Linlithgowshire. Partaking, however, of the same advantage of situation upon the Frith of Forth (an arm of the sea, it may be observed, which, besides being remarkable for the many rare plants found on its shores, would seem, by its influence upon the climate and scenery, to enrich the

botany of the whole valley of Forth ;) possessing also the important requisite of every variety of soil, this county is far from being deficient in a botanical point of view. If the observation be directed to that part of it which comprehends the parish of Bo'ness, although promising in its general features, it would scarcely be expected, on a more particular inspection, to be the best locality for plants. The maritime species, which, as said before, gradually diminish in numbers as the shore of the Frith is traced upwards, will be seen, on reaching this, to have almost entirely disappeared, owing to the great accumulation of mud, and perhaps, also, the diminished saltiness of the water. Besides this, there is no ground sufficiently elevated for producing the plants of high situations. The Flora of the parish is thus so far wanting in variety. There are, however, certain favourable circumstances which account for the large number of plants, on the whole, to be met with. The scenery is finely diversified with woods and plantations, which shelter in abundance their peculiar species. The river Avon, also, forming the boundary on the west, appears to have brought down the rarer plants which are found in ascending its higher course. The deep rocky dens at Tod's mill accordingly abound with such, and *Scirpus sylvaticus*, *Melica nutans*, *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Trollius europæus*; and plants by no means commonly met with may there be gathered in abundance, if the romantic beauty of the scene, as the river winds amidst its steep and wooded banks, may allow the eye to rest upon the humbler vegetation around. The flowering fern, *Osmunda regalis*, is also seen in this spot, but does not extend higher up; although frequent enough on the west coast, it appears in Scotland to shun the sharper breezes of the east; and the station just mentioned is probably the nearest to Edinburgh. *Tortula rigida*, a small species of moss, which is chiefly confined to the south of England, also grows abundantly by the river side at Inneravon. The presence of these two plants, especially the fern, seems to indicate a certain approach to a western climate, or is owing to the highly sheltered situation. The flowering fern becomes more frequent in Stirlingshire.

Among the few maritime plants within the bounds may be mentioned *Scirpus maritimus*, and *Aster tripolium*, which are seen in the summer months plentifully covering the brackish marshes below Kinneil. The aster is not a rare plant, and is mentioned chiefly because it was found in the same place by Sibbald nearly

one hundred and eighty years ago; and what is more deserving of notice, as connected with the gradual changes which take place in estuaries, he also observed growing on the shore, *Thalictrum minus*, and *Arundo arenaria*, a strictly maritime plant, and so well known to bind the loose sand of the sea shore; neither of which are now to be seen; a circumstance of some importance, as it confirms the supposition derived from other observations, that there has been a great increase of the sleeches since Sibbald's time, and in some spots even a change from a comparatively sandy to a muddy beach. On searching the shore eastward, the same plants do not begin to appear for several miles, until the shore changes its character.

The natural copse wood of Kinneil, the only one in the county, affords, as might be expected, some rather peculiar plants, among which may be reckoned *Betonica officinalis*, very rare in this part of Scotland, and *Habenaria albida*, for which it is a singular station, that being a plant of hilly pastures. It is chiefly in this wood that the additions to the Scottish Cryptogamia were found, and which will be afterwards specified. *Geranium phæum*, *Listera Nidus-Avis*, *Arum maculatum*, are a few of the rarer flowering plants to be met with in the woods. In regard to the comparative prevalence of natural orders, the Graminæ are the most numerous in species, the Orchidiæ somewhat deficient. The common reed fills the ditches and wet places of the carse lands. *Poa aquatica*, and *Festuca elatior*, grasses of highly nutritive properties, are abundant by the side of the Avon.

Of the Cryptogamia, the Musci are not uninteresting. *Hypnum murale* and *Tortula revoluta* are frequent in old stone walls about Kinneil. *Tetraphis Browniana* and *Jungermannia furcata* occur in fruit; the latter very rare in the Dean plantation. *Dicranum flexuosum* covers the entire bank at Tod's Mill in abundant fructification. *Hypnum piliferum* is common, but not in fruit, although it may be obtained in that state about Hopetoun woods, in the parish of Abercorn.

Of the Lichenes and Algæ, there is nothing particular to be said. The marine are very scarce, from the nature of the beach.

The Fungi now remain to be noticed, which, as they have not been so extensively investigated in Scotland, as other plants, may, on that account, be expected to afford greater novelties. The agarics are particularly numerous. In this parish two localities for these may be distinguished as abounding in kinds of generally different forms and qualities. In the rich old pastures of Kinneil

those of fragile and delicate appearance often dissolving in decay may be looked for, while the surrounding woods and plantations harbour the larger species, which are usually acrid or tufted. Among the latter, *Agaricus Piperatus*, *Voleum*, *Flexuosus*, *Vellereus*, *Adustus*, although not generally common, are abundant under Kinneil cōpse. Of the former *A. Sowerbei*, a curious species, may be mentioned as growing on the bank by the shore. The following list of Fungi of different genera, gathered in the woods immediately around Kinneil, are allowed to be additions to the Scottish flora; the first nine are likewise quite new to Britain. The names are chiefly those of Fries and Berkeley.

Several species, apparently undescribed, were met with; but, as they have not yet been sufficiently examined, it is not judged proper to publish them in this place. Although Fungi are obscure plants, and little regarded, the subjoined list may be useful as a guide to those who attend to such things in other parts of the country, besides appearing necessary to complete this botanical view.

<i>Agaricus saccharinus</i>	<i>Agaricus grammopodius</i>	<i>Agaricus collinitus</i>
..... <i>algidus</i>	..... <i>butyraceus</i>	..... <i>plumosus</i>
<i>Arcyria fusca</i>	..... <i>camptophyllus</i>	..... <i>erinaceus</i>
<i>Stemonitis typhoides</i>	..... <i>glyciosmus</i>	..... <i>medius</i>
<i>Didymium costatum</i>	..... <i>capillaris</i>	..... <i>Iris</i>
..... <i>clavus</i>	..... <i>depluens</i>	<i>Cantharellus sinuosus</i>
<i>Diderma lepidota</i>	..... <i>racemosus</i>	..... <i>fissilis</i>
<i>Cribraria fulva</i>	..... <i>pterigenus</i>	<i>Merulius pallens</i>
..... <i>argillacea</i>	..... <i>sericellus</i>	<i>Hydnum ochraceum</i>
<i>Agaricus albo-brunnius</i>	..... <i>rhodopolius</i>	..... <i>udum</i>
..... <i>fulvus</i>	..... <i>reticulatus</i>	<i>Pistillaria quisquiliaris</i>
..... <i>columbetta</i>	..... <i>Sowerbei</i>	<i>Didymium cinereum</i>
..... <i>foetens</i>	..... <i>varius</i>	..... <i>farinaceum</i>
..... <i>fumosus</i>	..... <i>sanguineus</i>	<i>Doratomyces neesii corda</i>
..... <i>blennius</i>	..... <i>radicosus</i>	<i>Diochia elegans</i> *

As the various species of fungi are more generally distributed in temperate regions, to which they are chiefly confined, than plants of higher rank, owing, perhaps, to their greater simplicity of structure, it is very probable that all of the above might be found throughout Britain wherever those circumstances chiefly required for the production of the order, shade, and moisture exist. The fungi of the continent, indeed, are in a great many cases identical with those of this country. To this law of comparatively general distribution, there are, however, exceptions, and some of the species appear to be very local, their diffusion depending upon causes which are not understood. There is also a peculiarity con-

* Mr James C. Bauchop, who communicated this article on botany, submitted specimens of nearly all the Fungi to the Rev. Mr Berkeley, the best authority on the subject in this country, who confirmed or determined the names of the species.

nected with the stations of fungi: while some species are equally constant to these as the higher tribes of plants, there are others very uncertain in this respect, disappearing for a succession of seasons together, seemingly without any relation to the more obvious influence of moist weather. The causes of this would appear to be obscure as the plants themselves, but the fact probably points to a field of investigation in some measure peculiar to them, although, in regard to the more general views of botanical geography, they may have less claim upon the attention.

The following is a general list of a few more of the rarer plants:

Hippuris vulgaris	Orthotricum diaphinum	Agaricus mutabilis
Veronica montana	Hookeria lucens	——— titubans
Viburnum opulus	Hypnum complanatum	——— vaginatus
Fedia olitoria	Grimmia tricophylla	——— fuliginosus
Aira cristata	Hypnum alopecurum	——— flaccidus
Milium effusum	Brium legulatum	——— parasiticus
Festuca bromoides	——— rostratum	——— cochleatus
Sagina maritima	Jungermannia crenulata	Cantharellus cornucopioides
Adoxa moschatellina	——— polyanthos	——— lutescens
Origanum vulgare	Marchantia conica	Radulum orbicula
Hieracium umbellatum		Calocera viscosa
Carex curta		Helvella elastica
	FUNGI.	Leotia lubrica
MUSCI, &c. in fruit.	Agaricus ceraceus	Peziza macropus
Gymnostomum Heimii	——— confluens	Physarum sinuosum
Didymodon trifarum	——— clavus	Geoglossum cucullatum
heteromallum.	——— scaber	

Ornithology.—The only bird at all rare is the fauvette (*Sylvia hortensis*.) It seems to be as common some seasons about Kinneil as the black-cap, and is probably generally so throughout Scotland, although overlooked from its similarity to others.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Parochial Records.—The parochial records consist of, 1st, five volumes of minutes of session, regularly kept from 1694, and affording interesting information regarding the state of morality and religion in the parish in former times; 2d, six volumes of registers of births, baptisms, proclamations, and marriages; the oldest volumes are imperfect; the earliest entry is dated 1648; 3d, two volumes recording deaths, the first from 1736 to 1783, the second from 1808 to the present time; 4th, several volumes relating to the management of the poor's funds.

Antiquities.—The Wall of Antoninus, commonly called Graham's Dyke, traversed this parish. This celebrated rampart, in its course between the Friths of Forth and Clyde, crossed the river Avon, the western boundary of the parish, near Inneravon, and proceeded in an easterly direction towards Carriden or Abercorn; and its tract is still visible at various places along the high

grounds of the parish. Traces of the military road on the south side of the rampart have been recently discovered near Inneravon, and also in two different fields east from Kinneil House. It is generally supposed that a station existed at Inneravon, and probably there was another at Kinneil. The wall was constructed, not by one, but by several individuals, at different periods; and they seem to have terminated the work at different places.* Hence has arisen some diversity of opinion regarding the site of the place whose name Bede and Nennius have so particularly recorded, and near to which, according to them, was the eastern termination of the rampart. The notices of ancient historians, and the researches of modern times, point to one or the other of two localities,† viz. to Kinneil in this parish, and to Weltoun in the parish of Carriden, as the place referred to by Bede and Nennius. Perhaps the name or names mentioned by these authors refer to both‡ places, and not to one of them exclusively. Cenail,§ (which Nennius mentions as Scottish, *i. e.* Celtic, indicating an earlier period,) may refer to Kinneil,|| where the earliest termination of the wall is generally supposed to have been; and Pengual, Penfahel, and

* The situation of Kinneil, commanding so extensive a view of the Frith of Forth, was most suitable for a watch-tower, and especially for one terminating the line of forts erected between Forth and Clyde by Agricola. The wall afterwards constructed by Lollius Urbicus might advantageously have terminated at this watch-tower; and the situation being one of importance, and probably much frequented, a village might spring up in its vicinity at an early period. And though afterwards, on different occasions, additional forts or towers were erected, and the wall was repaired, and extended farther east, yet the village in the vicinity of the original termination of the rampart would retain its name, even though another station might be erected near the more recent termination, and a name of similar import given to it. A village near the eastern termination of the wall of Severus was called Wallsend.

† The termination of the wall, according to Gildas, was near Carriden, about two miles west from Abercorn;—according to Bede, about two miles west from Abercorn, at a place called Penfahel or Peneltun;—according to Nennius, at a place called Pengual, or Peneltun, or Cenail;—and, according to Fordun, near Carriden. It was the opinion of Sibbald, one of the earliest antiquarians who considered this subject, that Penfahel or Peneltun of Bede was the very same as Walltown or Weltoun, near Carriden. Yet more recent and abler antiquarians have considered Cenail, Penfahel, and Peneltun of the more ancient authors the same as Kinneil.

‡ Regarding Nennius, Ritson remarks, “He had already confounded the wall of the real Severus with that of Antoninus, and now confounds another Severus with somebody else.” Perhaps in this instance he has confounded two names which, though of similar import, refer to two different localities.

§ Cenail is evidently Celtic, and may be derived from *Cean*, “head” or “end,” and *fal*, “sod,” “turf,” “wall,” or “fence”—the possessive case of which is *fhail*, having *fh* perfectly quiescent. Cenail may thus signify “end of the turf wall” or “wall-end.” Pengual or Penfahel is Cambro-British, signifying “wall-head” or “wall-end;” and Peneltun has the same signification, with the addition of the Saxon termination “tun.”

|| Cenail, mentioned only by Nennius, (who does not specify distance nor mention Carriden or Abercorn,) corresponds with Kinneil, at least in pronunciation; whilst, in respect of both pronunciation and distance, Penfahel and Peneltun of Bede correspond better with Weltoun in Carriden than with Kinneil.

Peneltun, (Cambro-British, and Saxon, indicating a later period,) may refer to Weltoun,* which is farther east than Kinneil, and which, probably, is not far from the place to which the wall was finally extended.

Near the farm-steading of Upper Kinneil, and a little south of the Roman wall, there was a small tumulus or cairn, locally known by the name of the Laughing Hill. On its being opened to obtain stones for drains, four stone-coffins and four urns were found. The coffins contained black mould; and the urns, which were full of human bones, were inverted and placed upon flat stones. Probably the bodies were burned, and, after the calcined bones were collected and put into the urns, the remaining ashes were put into the coffins. The bones, when first discovered, were almost white; but, when exposed to the air, they very soon became black, and crumbled to dust. Several pieces of charcoal were found amongst them.

A stone coffin and an urn, similar to those already mentioned, were found in the north side of an eminence called Bell's *Know*, immediately above the town of Bo'ness.

A curious battle axe, coins, and other antiquities, have been found in different parts of the parish. One of the coins last found is a large silver piece of James VI.

Near Inneravon, there is an old tower, with traces of considerable ruins connected with it. Sibbald calls it a Roman watch-tower; but it has not the aspect of a Roman tower. In the Auchinleck Chronicle of James II., it is mentioned, that, in the beginning of March 1455, "James II. kest down the Castell of Inveravyne, and sine incontinent passed till Glasgow," on an expedition against Douglasdale, &c. The old ruin at Inveravon is most probably one of the corner towers of the Castle of Inneravon, built on the site of the Roman station.

Below Kinneil House, upon the coast, there was formerly a cas-

* It is not surprising that Pengual, Penfabel, and Peneltun should ultimately become Weltun or Weltoun, through the prevailing influence of the Saxon language. The omission of the initial syllable is not without example. Edinburgh was, and still is, Dun-Eiden in Celtic; Læcuningham is now Cunningham; Linlithgow is occasionally written Lithgow, even in important documents. The interchange of *gu*, *w*, and *f* in pronunciation, may be traced, even to this day, in different parts of Scotland. Weltoun seems to have been a locality of some notoriety nearly 200 years before Sibbald wrote his Account of Linlithgowshire. Alexander Hamilton in le Grange, had a charter, *under the great seal*, of the lands of Weltoun in Linlithgowshire, of date 8th February 1524. Two important requisites of a Roman station exist at Weltoun, viz. an eminence, and a good supply of water. These might have rendered it an eligible site for a station, although the wall, probably, did not terminate at that place, but in its vicinity, and nearer to the Frith.

tle, named Castle Lyon. It was built by a lady of the house of Glamis, and was probably the jointure house of Lady Margaret Lyon, daughter of Lord Glamis, and widow of John, first Marquis of Hamilton. A path leading from the high ground towards the shore, still called the Castle Loan, and some remains of a wall, called the Castle garden wall, indicate that the site of Castle Lyon was near the Snab.

Kinneil House.—Kinneil House, one of the family seats of the Duke of Hamilton, is the most remarkable building in the parish. The barony of Kinneil is one of the most ancient possessions of the house of Hamilton, and is associated with some interesting events in the history of that noble family.

According to "*Ffrier Mark Hamiltonis Historie*," King Robert the Bruce gave all the lands of Kinneil to Sir Gilbert Hamilton, "for his trew service and greit manheid," and especially for having slain "the greit Lieutennant of Yngland upon Kynnale Muir."* From the same authority we learn, that this Sir Gilbert had been with The Bruce in the field of Bannockburn, and was one of the seven knights that kept the King's person. For Sir Gilbert's exploit upon Kynnale Muir, "King Robert gaif till him his armis till weir in Scotland, thre sinkfuilzies in ane bludy feild." The descendants of Sir Gilbert have held the lands and barony of Kinneil by various charters from the kings of Scotland. One of the earliest is dated July 28th 1323, granted by Robert I., in favour of Walter, the son of Gilbert. A charter of the lands and barony of Kinneil was granted to James, the first Lord Hamilton, who, in 1474, married the Countess of Arran, which event connected the house of Hamilton with the royal family of Scotland.

When the Duke of Charterherault was Regent, he made large repairs upon Kinneil House. Considerable alterations were made upon it by Duchess Anne and Duke William, who, according to Sibbald, greatly embellished it. Probably, at this period, the old eastle or keep was modernized in the front, but not in good taste. The battlement was converted into a cornice and balusters; the

* In a place formerly known as Kinneil Muir, a remarkable stone lay near the road which used to be a thoroughfare between Linlithgow and Falkirk, or Stirling. It was seven feet long, five feet broad, and three feet thick. Its upper surface had been roughly dressed, a groove had been cut round the border, and a cross in the centre. It had a monumental appearance; but there is no vestige of tradition regarding it. Excepting the achievement of Sir Gilbert, there is no remarkable event associated with the locality. About twenty years ago, the stone, being an obstruction to the plough, was blown to pieces and removed.

windows were enlarged, and a staircase was erected at each end. A wing projecting eastward was erected on the north ; and, apparently, a corresponding wing was intended to have been placed on the south, so as to form three sides of a square.

Kinneil House is built on the edge of a bank, about sixty feet above the level of the sea, and is surrounded with a considerable quantity of natural wood. The approach is from the east, along a beautiful avenue of aged trees. From the roof of the main building, which is flat, and covered with lead, there is an extensive and beautiful prospect. The admirable situation of Kinneil House, and the natural beauties connected with it, warrant Sibbald's magnificent description of this " princely seat." But the hand of time has changed the scene ; the natural beauties of the place remain, but those of art, which Sibbald so much admired, have been effaced, and the internal decorations are gone. The numerous and spacious apartments of Kinneil House are at present uninhabited. Though in former times it was the abode of nobles, and the retreat of kings, the present generation will regard it rather as the favourite residence of the philosopher and philanthropist. The celebrated Dugald Stewart resided here about twenty years ; and from this place he has dated most of those works which are the imperishable monuments of his genius. The removal of Mrs and Miss Stewart, who were the last occupants of Kinneil House, was much regretted by every inhabitant of the parish ; and the active and extensive benevolence of that family will be long and gratefully remembered.

Celebrated Characters.—Other names besides Professor Stewart's may be mentioned, as connected with both Kinneil and the University of Edinburgh. Principal Wishart was the son of the last minister of Kinneil ; and Principal Baird, whose name will ever be associated with the cause of education in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland, was a native of this parish.

A considerable number of clergymen might be mentioned as connected with this parish by birth or residence. One family has produced four clergymen of the Church of Scotland, all of distinguished excellence, though perhaps the editor of the last edition of Wodrow's Church History is best known to fame.

The celebrated James Watt matured some of his improvements on the steam-engine, during his residence at Kinneil House. In 1769, Mr Watt, on the recommendation of Dr Black of Glasgow, entered into an engagement with Dr Roebuck, of Carron Iron.

works, a man equally eminent for kindness of heart, ability, and enterprise. Dr Roebuck at this time rented the coal-works on the estate of Kinneil. Under the superintendence of Mr Watt, a small steam-engine was constructed at Kinneil House. The cylinder was made of block tin, and was eighteen inches diameter. The first experiment was made at one of the coal-mines, and the action of the engine far surpassed even the sanguine expectations of the proprietors. Indeed, so great was Watt's success, that he procured a patent "for saving steam and fuel in fire-engines." Another place, however, was destined to be the field of his prosperous career. The pecuniary difficulties in which Dr Roebuck became at this time involved, checked the proceedings at Kinneil; and soon afterwards, Mr Watt formed a connection with Mr Boulton, under the celebrated firm, Boulton, Watt, and Co. Soho, Birmingham.

The building at Kinneil in which Watt constructed the improved engine still remains.

There are several circumstances connected with this parish, and referring to the troublous times before the Revolution, which are worthy of being noticed. Many of them are recorded by Wodrow.

Mr William Wishart, the last minister of the parish of Kinneil, was amongst the earliest victims of the persecution which commenced in 1660. In the month of July he officiated at Kinneil, and in September following, he was imprisoned in Edinburgh. On an application from the presbytery of Linlithgow in 1661, he was freed from confinement; but in 1675 letters of intercommuning were issued against him. He continued in prison till 1685, when a sentence of banishment was pronounced against him; but, owing to the death of the King, this sentence was not carried into effect, and he was liberated under bond to compear when called. He was residing at Leith in 1691. He had three sons who attained to great distinction, Sir George Wishart of Clifton Hall, Rear-Admiral Wishart, and Principal Wishart of the University of Edinburgh. The admiral, having no children, left his fortune, amounting to L.16,000 or L.20,000, to the Principal.

Mr John Wauch was the first minister of the parish of Bo'ness. He, too, suffered in the persecution, having been denounced in 1673. He probably retired to Ireland, as did some of the other members of the presbytery of Linlithgow.

During Episcopacy, the induction of Mr James Hamilton in

1678, and also that of Mr William Thomson in 1685, are noted in the parish record.

On November 30th 1687, the brethren of the presbytery of Linlithgow met at Bo'ness, "and having called upon the name of God, they did constitute themselves in a presbytery." This was probably the first of the regular meetings of the presbytery after the liberty. And on December 7th they met again at Bo'ness, "in order to the settling of Mr Michael Potter to be minister unto the Presbyterian congregation of the Ness."

This Mr Potter had been subjected to the most rigorous persecution. In 1673, he passed his trials before some Presbyterian ministers, and soon after was privately ordained upon a call from a great body of Presbyterians in the parish of St Ninians. At the instigation of the Bishop of Dunblane, a violent persecution was raised against him, which compelled him twice to retire to Holland. He was at last apprehended in his own house in Bo'ness in 1681, and imprisoned in Edinburgh, and afterwards sent to the Bass. In 1685, his confinement in the Bass was altered into an act of banishment. But circumstances preventing his going once more to Holland, he remained in secrecy till the liberty in 1687, when he was settled in Bo'ness. In 1693, he was called to Ecclesmachan, and afterwards to Dunblane, where he died. His son was minister of Kippen, and afterwards Professor of Divinity in the University of Glasgow.

Mr Robert Hamilton, afterwards Sir Robert, (son of Sir Thomas Hamilton of Preston and Fingalton), who was very prominent and zealous in the cause of the Covenanters, resided at Bo'ness for some time previous to his death, which took place in 1701.

The following names are recorded amongst the worthies who experienced the violence of persecution. Belonging to Kinneil, Mr Robert Hamilton, son of the Chamberlain of Kinneil, regarding whom there are still some traditional recollections, was imprisoned and tortured, and Andrew Murdoch was banished. Belonging to Bo'ness, Archibald Stewart, William Gougar, William Cuthill, and the intrepid and devoted Marion Harvey, were executed.

John Gib, a sailor in Bo'ness, was the leader of that remarkable sect of fanatics who appeared a short time before the Revolution, and assumed the name of "Sweet Singers," but were generally called Gibbites.

The memory of Mr John Henderson, shipmaster, is held in

high estimation in this place. He was born in 1686, and died in 1758. He was a man of singular humility, benevolence, and piety, spending much of his time in divine meditations, which he was in the habit of committing to writing, "to keep his heart from wandering, and fixt it upon divine and spiritual subjects." A small selection from these meditations was published after his death, and forms a composition remarkable for the regularity of its structure, and for the simplicity, spirituality, and fervour of its devotional sentiments.*

III.—POPULATION.

Kinneil was a considerable town long before any population had collected at the Ness. In the year 1661, there were 559 "communicable" persons in the parish of Kinneil, the greater part of whom resided in the town of Kinneil. Probably the increase of trade at the Ness, and other causes, withdrew the population from the town of Kinneil; so that in 1691, it was almost wholly demolished; a few families only remained. But the great improvements in agriculture, since the middle of the eighteenth century, have in some measure restored the population of the barony, although the town of Kinneil has wholly disappeared.

In 1755, the population of the parish was 2668			
1795, town,	2613;	country,	565
1801, exclusive of 214 seamen,			2790
1811,	do.	184	do.
1821,	do.	158	do.
1831,			2809
1841,			2347

The town of Bo'ness, notwithstanding its unpromising external appearance, is remarkable for the healthiness and longevity of the inhabitants. By a table, constructed with much care from the register of deaths for a period of twenty-five years immediately preceding 1834, it appears that the number of deaths was 1342; that during that time, 167 persons died between 60 and 70 years of age; 227, between 70 and 80; 119, between 80 and 90; and 11, upwards of 90.

* The following notices refer to the commotions in 1745. Instructions and warrants were sent on different occasions, through the Custom-House here, to the Sheriff of Linlithgow, the Magistrates of South Queensferry, and "the baillie of this town," regarding suspected persons and ships.

The Custom-House was robbed by the rebels, who carried off a number of broadsword blades, cutlasses, &c. which formed part of a shipment from Germany, made by an armourer in Glasgow, on a Treasury warrant.

A troop of dragoons, brought to protect Kinneil House, accidentally set fire to some of the seats which remained in the old church of Kinneil. Kinneil House had, on former occasions, been exposed to violence. In December 1559, during popular commotions, it was pillaged, and in February following it was burned; and again it was burned, in 1570, by some of the English army who had invaded Scotland.

The inhabitants of Bo'ness are in general shrewd, intelligent, and enterprising; and, as many of them are early trained to the sea, natives of the parish may be found in the most distant parts of the world. The farmers on the barony of Kinneil are a most respectable and exemplary part of the community. The general character of the colliers has improved much of late years.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The Duke of Hamilton is proprietor and superior of the whole parish, with the exception of a farm of 169 imperial acres, mortified for behoof of the minister.

Agriculture.—Excepting the natural wood near Kinneil House, the wooded banks of the Avon, and various strips of planting intersecting the parish for ornament or shelter, the whole surface is arable. The average rental may be stated as follows:

430 acres of carse land, at L.3, 3s. per acre,	. . .	L.1354	10	0
2230 acres of dry field, at L.1, 16s. do.	. . .	4014	0	0
270 acres under plantation at 12s. do.	. . .	162	0	0
<hr/> 2930	Total,	<hr/> L.5530	10	0

The whole valuation of the parish stands in the cess-books of the county at L.3559, 8s. Scots.

The carse land is of excellent quality. The dry-field consists of various kinds of soil. The greatest part is thin, lies on a tilly bed, and requires extensive draining, which has been, and still is, carried on to a considerable extent on modern principles, and with beneficial results.

The rotation of crops for carse land is that called the six-shift course; 1st, oats; 2^d, summer-fallow; 3^d, wheat; 4th, beans; 5th, barley; and, 6th, clover-grass, which is cut for hay. The rotation for dry-field is the same, where the land is stiff, and on a retentive bottom; but where the land is free, and not retentive of moisture, a green drilled crop is substituted for summer fallow. In this case, the ground remains in pasture a year or two after the removal of the hay crop.

Leases, &c.—Although a few are for a shorter period, the leases are usually for nineteen years, by which means the farmer is encouraged to employ his capital in the improvement of his farm, and his industry is stimulated. The farms are generally let upon corn rents, convertible according to the fiars prices of the county for the crop and year for which the rents are payable. By this mode of adjusting the rents, agricultural distress may be said to be unknown in the parish.

Coal.—The outcropping of some of the seams of coal in this neighbourhood must have attracted notice to this mineral at an early period. About the middle of the fifteenth century, Pope Pius II. expressed his astonishment at “black stones” being given in alms to the poor of Scotland. Even as early as 1291, a charter was granted in favour of the Abbots of Dunfermline, giving the right of digging coals in the neighbourhood of the convent. The seams of coal in this neighbourhood are, generally speaking, of good thickness, and excellent quality; and most of them appear to have been wrought at a very early period, in different places, and frequently to a great extent. When the salt-works (consisting of sixteen pans, producing about 37,000 bushels annually,) were in full operation, the average quantity of coal raised in twelve months might be about 44,000 tons. For nearly forty years past, however, no pit has been in operation in this parish, the coals being raised in the neighbouring parish of Carriden. But lately, owing to a serious irruption of water, the works there were interrupted, when an old pit was re-opened in Bo’ness, and was wrought for a short period. At the hill, the great coal was then sold at 10s. per ton, and the *chews* at 6s. per ton. The great coal was shipped at 9s. per ton, and the *chews* at 7s. per ton.

The neighbourhood of the Snab has been proposed as the most favourable situation for a new winning of the coal-field. The establishment of a colliery at this place is expected to be of considerable advantage to the town.

Ironstone was formerly wrought to a considerable extent, but is wrought only in small quantities at present, along with the coal.

Quarries.—From the trap rock or whinstone quarries are obtained stones for buikling, and excellent metal for the roads.

There are several freestone quarries in the parish, the best of which is at Craigenbuck. The stone which it yields is of excellent quality, and is much used for hearths and ovens.

The limestone, which is more suitable for mortar than for mure, is not wrought at present.

Fisheries.—The inhabitants of this place turned their attention to whale-fishing about sixty years ago. At one time eight whale-ships belonged to Bo’ness. But this branch of industry, though attempted at different periods, has not been prosperous, and only one vessel is employed in it at present. There are two boiling-houses for preparing the whale-oil; one of which has been repaired lately, and made very complete in its arrangements.

Herrings seldom appear here in great quantities. In 1794-5, there was a very successful fishing, but there has been none here since.

The establishment of a salmon-fishery at the mouth of the Avon has been proposed, but not yet carried into effect.

Haddock, cod, and skate, are found in the Frith; but little attention is paid to fishing, owing, probably, to the want of bait.

Small quantities of trout and flounders are occasionally taken with hand-nets, in the stream of the Avon.

Manufactures.—Tambouring was formerly a very profitable employment to a great number of females in this place. This branch of industry now affords but a small remuneration, although a considerable number is still employed in it.

The Bo'ness Pottery commenced on a small scale in the year 1784, and has been carried on by various individuals since that time. The present proprietors have greatly enlarged their premises, and extended their works. They manufacture almost every variety of stone and earthen-ware.

The Bo'ness Foundry is generally well employed. The chemical has lately been much enlarged.

At the east end of the town there is an extensive bonded wood-yard, and an open woodyard on the Links. Connected with them, and driven by steam, is a saw-mill, containing both circular and vertical saws, and a very ingenious and efficient planing machine. The same steam-engine moves machinery for preparing bone manure.

There is a rope-work on a small scale on the Links.

The Bo'ness distillery, at the west end of the town, is an extensive establishment; but the present proprietor is working it on a limited scale, producing only spirit of superior quality. The revenue paid to Government, including malt duty, is sometimes considerably above L. 300 per week. The farmers obtain a large supply of excellent manure from the distillery, as there is connected with it extensive accommodation for feeding cattle.

Besides the grain malted and used at the distillery, a considerable quantity is malted elsewhere, and sent out of the parish.

At this port there is an extensive grain trade, foreign and British. The grain merchants have accommodation for warehousing 15000 quarters. Almost all the granaries have been used as bonded warehouses.

Shipping.—In the course of the 17th century, Bo'ness became

the great emporium of commerce with Holland and the Baltic. Probably it profited much by the declaration of Parliament in 1672, that burghs of regality and barony were entitled to the same freedom of trade as royal burghs. The strict regulations of the English customs laws, introduced at the Union, proving a great restraint upon the trade of Scotland, the Scottish merchants turned their attention to the English colonies, then opened to them, and a great trade in tobacco, and other colonial produce arose, by which the merchants of this place acquired much wealth. Between 1750 and 1780, Bo'ness was one of the most thriving towns on the east coast, and ranked as the third port in Scotland. But since the opening of the Forth and Clyde Canal, and especially since the erection of Grangemouth into a separate port, the commerce of this place has decreased, and at present it is in a very languishing condition.

Table of Registered vessels belonging to the Port of Borrowstownness, (including all the creeks,) and of the amount of duties received at different periods.

Years.	Total.		Foreign Trade.		Coast Trade.		Fishery.										
	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.	Ships.	Tons.									
1760,	55	8548	11	1111	42	1910	2	522									
1770,	117	6536	21	2000	93	4135	4	451									
1780,	140	8965	24	2710	116	6255	0	0									
1790,	178	13888	49	4885	133	8284	2	719									
1800,	134	8745	23	2390	111	6415	0	0									
Duties Received.																	
			Inward.			Ex warehouse.			Outward.			Coastwise.			Total Duties each year.		
			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.			£ s. d.		
1805,*	172	11164													46318	3	4
1810,*	154	9051													30485	17	0½
1815,	134	7887													8835	6	4½
1820,	129	8196													1818	11	9½
1825,	91	5799													5318	12	10½
1830,	123	8916	668	17	0	352	3	6	3752	2	8	78	15	5	4846	18	7
1835,†	121	8452	1420	16	4	2057	13	8	311	1	6				3787	11	6
1839,‡	101	6521	1425	1	9	3190	12	5	208	9	5				4824	3	7

* The ships and duties of 1805 and 1810 include those of Grangemouth. At this period the inward trade consisted chiefly of timber, deals, iron, flax, blubber, grain, bark, madder; and the outward trade, of grain, salt, coals, earthen-ware. The outward and inward trade is similar at the present time. The flax is imported into the creeks on the north side, and conveyed to Dunfermline.

† Duties on coals were reduced in 1834.

‡ Of these, 14 ships, measuring 1792 tons, belonged to Bo'ness, and the rest to the

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

It appears from the recollection of Sir R. Drummond of Meidhope, referred to by Sir R. Sibbald, that, about the year 1600, there was but *one house* where Bo'ness and the other villages eastward to Carriden now stand. And about the year 1700, according to Sir R. Sibbald's own observation, "from the Palace of Kinneil, for some two miles eastward, are almost continued buildings upon the coast; and above it, upon the sloping ground from the hills of Irongath, there are several seats of the gentry, and several villages well peopled, because of the frequent coal-pits all over the ground." To this period, therefore, we may refer the origin of Bo'ness and the neighbouring villages. And the great and rapid change which took place between 1600 and 1700, may be ascribed to the extensive trade with the low countries, which sprung up during that interval. The merchandise brought from Holland, Bremen, Hamburgh, Königsberg, and Dantzic, was landed on the south shores of the Frith, and conveyed to Linlithgow, Stirling, Glasgow, and all the west country. Blackness was the only place on the south side of the Frith where ships could lie safely; but causeways or gravelled roads are said to have been made on the beech, by which carts might be brought alongside of vessels at low water, for the purpose of landing or shipping goods. The Ness, on which the town now stands, presented a situation favourable for such operations; and, most probably, the compact piece of causeway, which was discovered about twenty years ago, at the depth of several feet below the sill of the dock-gate, was part of the original landing-place at the Ness.

The abundance of coal in the neighbourhood, as well as the local convenience of the Ness, probably attracted shipping to it at an early period; and the prosperous trade, which commenced in the beginning of the seventeenth century, induced many rich merchants, ship-owners, and others, to acquire property,* or to reside here; so that the town and population rapidly increased.

Town.—The town of Bo'ness is situated in the north-east corner of the parish, close to the harbour, and nearly on a level with the sea. It is uncertain when it was erected into a burgh of re-

creeks of Limekilns and Inverkeithing. In 1794, 25 ships belonged to the town; whereof 17 were brigantines, 11 of them engaged in the Baltic trade, and 6 under contract to sail regularly once every 14 days, to and from London.

* Sir John Hamilton of Grange, and Sir John Hamilton of Beirerofts, had sines of various houses and tenements in Bo'ness, from the Marquis of Hamilton, in 1620 and 1623.

gality ; but it was made a burgh of barony when the Jurisdiction Act was repealed : and it is governed by a bailie appointed by the Duke of Hamilton. Bo'ness is a post-town, having two arrivals and two departures of the mail daily. A weekly market is held on Monday. There is an annual fair in July, which is observed now chiefly by the colliers and carters, who then choose the office-bearers of their friendly societies, and ride in procession, gayly decorated with ribbons, feathers, and flags.

Harbour.—The harbour is formed by two piers carried out into the Frith. The western pier, which was first erected, has its extremity bent towards the east. The eastern pier extends as far as the other ; so that the harbour is completely protected from storms, and is one of the safest and most accessible in the Frith. A double wall, forming a broad road, has been run across the harbour, between the two piers, so as to form a basin on the land side of the harbour. This basin is allowed to fill with the flowing tide, and at low water it is emptied by opening four sluices, through which the water flows with a rapid current, so as to clean and deepen the harbour with very little trouble or expense. A small jetty has been run out from the middle of this wall, and parallel with the piers, which increases the accommodation of the harbour ; and at the west end of the wall is a gateway, (the gate or lock has lately been removed,) through which vessels are admitted to a patent slip, which has been laid down at the west side of the basin. The breadth of the harbour, or the length of the basin wall and dock-gate between the two piers, is 240 feet ; the length of the west pier from this wall is 568 feet. A part of the east pier, 386 feet long, was built in 1733 ; and an addition, 180 feet long, was made in 1787. The depth of water in the harbour at spring tides may be from 16 to 18, or even 20 feet.

The improvements of the harbour have been effected chiefly by an impost on ale and beer, and on anchorage duty levied by an Act of Parliament, which has been repeatedly renewed. By the last act, (of 1816, for twenty-five years,) an assessment of 1s. per pound is levied on all buildings within town, along with the old impost of 2d. Scots on the pint of ale or beer, and an anchorage duty of 2½d. on coasters, and 3½d. on foreign vessels.

The impost, duty, and assessment of the town and harbour are under the management of fifteen trustees, elected from the merchants and shipmasters.

It is a remarkable circumstance, that no shore dues or wharfage on goods are levied at this harbour; and it is much to be regretted, that, during the last lease of the colliery, almost all the coals from the Duke of Hamilton's property were shipped, not at Bo'ness, but at Bridgeness in Carriden. These circumstances have proved exceedingly disadvantageous to the funds of the town. But it is hoped, when the Act of Parliament, and the lease of the coal-works, shall be renewed, these serious disadvantages will be avoided.

Owing to the deficiency of funds, the trustees have not only been prevented from undertaking various desirable improvements in the town and harbour, but have also incurred a heavy debt, as will appear from the following statement :

Annual revenue ; average for ten years.			Expenditure for same period.		
Anchorage duty, and harbour dues,			Interest of borrowed money, L.80 12 3		
	L.111	12 10	Repairs of harbour, wages, &c. 161 17 0		
Impost on ale,	13	17 0			
Assessment collected,	46	17 6			
Sale of manure,	36	10 0			
Share of slip,	7	9 2			
	<hr/>				
	L.216	6 6			
					<hr/>
					242 9 9

The debt due by the trustees in the year 1823 was L.1769. At one period the debt was above L.2000. At present, however, it is less.

The petty customs are the property of the Duke of Hamilton, the superior.

Port and Custom-Houses.—Before the Union, the magistrates of royal burghs collected the greater customs belonging to the Crown, as well as the petty customs belonging to the burghs, and they accounted for the former to the Exchequer; but at, and probably for some time before, the Union, the greater customs were taken out of the hands of magistrates, and let to tacksmen, or farmers of the revenue, as appears from the minutes of the Commissioners of the Union. The King's duties were collected at Blackness, for the goods imported in this district. By the treaty of Union, the English customs laws were extended to Scotland, and custom-houses were then established at the principal ports. The influence of the Hamilton family procured the Custom-House to be established at their own town of Bo'ness, instead of Blackness, and the first ledger of the "Port of Borrowstoun Ness" commences on 26th December 1707. The district of this port embraced both sides of the Frith of Forth, from Dumbrissle Point and Cramond Water, upwards to the boundaries of Alloa.

On 1st December 1810, Grangemouth, previously a creek of this port, was erected into a separate port.

The establishment of the port consists, at present, of one collector, one comptroller, and one tide-waiter at Bo'ness, and eight other individuals at the creeks, &c. connected with the establishment. In 1795, the establishment consisted of forty-four individuals. *

Ecclesiastical State.—According to the “*Taxationes Ecclesiarum*,” quoted by Sibbald, Kinneil was in the diocese of St Andrews, and deanery of Linlithgow, about the year 1176, and was rated at twenty-five merks. It had been given to the canons of Holyrood in the twelfth or thirteenth century, and was confirmed to them by the Bishop of St Andrews in 1240. The canons enjoyed the revenues, and the cure was served by a vicar. In 1633, the parish of Kinneil was in the diocese of Edinburgh. †

The ruins of the old parish church, and the burying-ground of Kinneil, are still to be seen a little west from Kinneil House. ‡ No records remain; but the inhabitants of the barony still observe some old customs connected with the ancient parish; and there are a few relics which they hold in veneration, and preserve with great care. The communion table linen, and part of the communion table, and some other articles, are in the possession of Mr William Thomson, farmer, Upper Kinneil.

About the year 1634, the inhabitants of Bo'ness, induced by the increasing prosperity and importance of the place, and considering the parish church at Kinneil at an inconvenient distance from the town, built a place of worship for themselves. The minister of the parish, to accommodate the inhabitants of the town, preached in this place of worship, as well as in the parish church of Kinneil, till the year 1649, when a petition was presented to the Parliament of Scotland for a disjunction from Kinneil, and a separate minister. Parliament granted the prayer of the petition, and, after several visitations, the presbytery of Linlithgow found

* Much information, especially regarding the port, has been communicated by John Mackinlay, Esq. Collector of Customs, Bo'ness.

† Sir David de Hamilton, Lord of Cadzow, mortified to the see of Glasgow, “*pro salute animæ suæ*,” an annuity of ten merks Sterling yearly out of his barony of Kynnele, anno 1361. In 1512, John Stirling granted L.10 Sterling yearly from his lands of Easter Crackey, to a chaplain for performing divine service at one of the altars of Kinneil Church.

‡ The inhabitants of the barony have ceased to inter at Kinneil, as burying-ground has been provided near the Bo'ness churchyard. In the latter are several expensively sculptured monuments, some of which were erected by families now extinct, whose names have been obliterated to give place to others.

it necessary, that Bo'ness should be erected into a parish by itself, bounded on the south, by Graham's Dike; on the north, by the sea; on the east, by Thirlestone; and on the west, by the castle wall, commonly called "Capie's Wall." Some objection appears to have been made to the measure, as it was effected whilst James, Duke of Hamilton, the sole proprietor of the lands and teinds of the parish, was detained in England. However, in December 1669, William and Anne, Duke and Duchess of Hamilton, obtained an Act of the Scots Parliament, declaring the church built within the town to be "the kirk of the hail barony of Kinneil and Bo'ness." From that period, the parishes have been united, and considered as one.

The following have been the ministers of Bo'ness after Mr M. Potter: Mr John Brand, ordained 3d January 1694; Mr William Brand, ordained 1739; Mr Patrick Baillie, ordained 14th May 1747; Mr John Morton, ordained 10th May 1792; Dr Robert Rennie, ordained 9th April 1795; present incumbent, admitted 13th February 1834.

The parish church of Bo'ness, at the period of the disjunction from Kinneil, was a long narrow building, with round-topped windows. Having become the church of the united parishes, an act of Parliament was obtained for repairing it, in the year 1672, and the Duke of Hamilton added a large aisle for himself and his tenants. In 1775, according to an agreement between the Duke's commissioners and the town, the aisle was taken down, and the church nearly rebuilt, of an oblong figure, 69 feet by 48, within the walls. In 1820, the south wall, and part of the east wall were rebuilt, and the galleries were reconstructed and made uniform; so that the church is now a plain, neat, substantial building, and in good repair.*

The church is seated for the accommodation of 950, but might accommodate 100 more, if the vacant spaces in the galleries were seated.

The Duke of Hamilton has 30 pews, containing 169 seats, occupied by his tenants, and by the colliers connected with his works. The representatives, who manage the church-funds, let

* Several curious memorials of the frequent intercourse between Holland and Bo'ness still remain. The pulpit was brought from Holland, and is a curious specimen of ancient art and taste; and the oldest pulpit Bible is an Amsterdam edition of the Geneva Bible, reprinted from an Edinburgh edition of 1610, having several of the usual maps and figurative illustrations. The New Testament is an English translation, by L. Tomson, of Beza's version. The volume is clasped and ornamented with brass.

10 pews, containing 88 seats ; and 45 pews, containing 279 seats, are private property, but pay an annual feu into the church funds. From L.20 to L.30 per annum are realized from these seats. There are 46 pews, containing 274 seats, which pay no feu, being the free property of private individuals ; and 14 pews, containing 99 seats, are the property of different societies. Many of the seats belonging to the societies, and of those which are the property of private individuals, are let, at the will of the proprietors, at rents varying from 1s. to 4s. per annum. There are fourteen free seats before the pulpit.

The church, being in the town, is situated near the eastern extremity of the parish ; yet the farmers, even in the most distant parts of the parish, are remarkably regular in their attendance at church.

The manse was built about thirty years ago, and, though not well planned or neatly finished, is a good house, and in tolerable repair.

The glebe consists of about six acres of excellent land, about L.20 yearly value ; and the grass glebe is let at L.4 per annum.

When the parishes of Kinneil and Bo'ness were united in 1669, the act of Parliament appointed the old stipend of Kinneil to be added to the stipend given by the town, and the whole to be the constant stipend of the minister serving the cure of the united parishes. According to the act of erection in 1649, the stipend of Bo'ness was 800 merks, with a glebe, and the rent of the minister's house. A stock of 10,000 merks was invested in land, and the annual rent of this mortification was designed for the stipend, but not amounting to 800 merks, the Act of Parliament appointed the inhabitants of the town to be stented 200 merks, (L.11, 2s. 2½d.), and representatives were to be chosen annually to fix and levy the assessment. The farm of Muirhouse, in which the stock was invested, is about two miles south from the town, and consists of 169 acres. As it was not very productive at first, the assessment was frequently levied during the first century after the disjunction of Bo'ness from Kinneil, but this has long since become unnecessary, as the farm has been greatly improved, and its value and yearly produce have been much increased.

The rent of this farm, together with a bond of L.6, 18s. 11d. by Duchess Anne Hamilton, and the seat-rents formerly mentioned, constitute the funds of the church of Bo'ness. These funds are chargeable with five-sixths of the expense of all repairs of the

church and churchyard wall, the Duke of Hamilton being chargeable with one-sixth. After deducting the expense of repairs on the church, and of the management of the funds, the free surplus is payable to the minister. This destination of the surplus funds was determined by a decision of the House of Lords in the year 1806. The church-funds are under the management of the representatives, who are chosen annually on the first Wednesday of January by the heritors, portioners, householders, and heads of families in the town, in conjunction with the minister and kirk-session.

The management of the church funds, in which the Dissenters take a part, is conducted in a manner most creditable to the community, without regard to party views or private interest.

The average sum of surplus paid to the minister is about L.195 per annum.

The stipend payable as from the parish of Kinneil is six chalders victual, the greatest part oats and barley; L.5 are allowed for communion elements; and coals are furnished to the minister by the family of Hamilton, conform to use and wont.

The sacrament of the Supper is dispensed in the parish church twice in the year. Number on the general roll of communicants, 644; number of male heads of families, communicants, 182; average number of actual communicants, 450.

There is but one Dissenting congregation in the parish, which is connected with the United Secession Church. Their place of worship will accommodate about 400, and is well attended.

Contributions for Religious and Charitable Purposes.—The people of this parish are very liberal in their contributions for religious and charitable purposes. Last year the sum of L.24, 12s. was raised by a parochial association in aid of the General Assembly's schemes.

There is also a Bible and Education Society, in the support and management of which Churchmen and Dissenters unite. By the annual contributions to this society, about 25 poor children receive a plain education; and the Scriptures, the Shorter Catechism, and school-books are supplied to the poor gratuitously, or at reduced prices.

There is an Association of Ladies for the purpose of supplying the poor with clothes, meal, and coals in winter. The farmers generously aid this work of benevolence by carting the coals gratuitously. The contributions obtained by the ladies, and the value of the services of the farmers, may amount in some years to L.30.

A small sum is occasionally collected for defraying the expenses of the Sabbath schools under the superintendence of the parish session. Besides the sums already mentioned, which may be considered as regular contributions, sums are occasionally collected at the parish, church to the extent of L.8, L.10, or L.12, for religious and charitable purposes.

Friendly Societies, &c.—The following is a statement of the sums of money paid at Bo'ness from Trinity House, London, and by various institutions in Bo'ness, in the year 1834 :

Name of institution.	Date of institution.	Members.	Receiving aid.	Sums paid.
Trinity House,	...	...	19	L.70 6 0
Sailor's society,	1634	15	4	25 0 0
Landman's Society,	1659	10	3	9 0 0
Friendly Society of Shipmasters,	1757	13	4	26 0 0
Beneficent Society,	1781	50	40	46 8 0
Shipmaster's Society,	...	20	9	13 10 0
				<hr/> L.190 4 0
Paid to residents in the parish,	.	.	.	L.181 9 4
non-residents,	.	.	.	58 14 8
				<hr/> L.190 4 0

There is a Provident Union Society, which divides its funds yearly. In 1834, there were 422 members, the payments in the course of the year amounting to L.59, 5s.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The inhabitants of the barony still observe some customs of their forefathers, which have a reference to the old parish of Kinneil. This appears particularly in the management of their poor, which is quite distinct from that of Bo'ness. The inhabitants of the barony put their church-door collections for the poor into the old ladle of Kinneil church, whilst the inhabitants of the town put theirs into a different receptacle. After the poor belonging to Kinneil are supplied, the remainder of the funds that can be spared is distributed to the poor of the town.

The following statement of the expenditure and receipts of the poor's funds of the barony and of the town respectively, is the average of three years, 1835, 1836, and 1837 :

<i>Expenditure.</i>				
	On perma- nent roll.	Occa- sional.	Annual average of each on per- manent roll.	Total ex- penditure.
Kinneil,	3	91	L.1 14 7	L.22 16 8
Bo'ness,	76	50	2 3 5	225 0 1
Highest rate in Bo'ness for one individual or family,	.	.	6 10 0	

Receipts.

	Kinneil.	Bo'ness.
Collections at church doors,	L.16 17 9	L.45 2 6
Rent of landed property,	0 0 0	82 8 0
Interest of bond, legacy, mortcloth dues, proclamations,	12 7 5	87 18 7
Average annual deficiency paid by the Duke of Hamilton,	0 0 0	109 11 0
	<hr/> L.29 5 2	<hr/> L.225 0 1

The Kinneil funds, which are occasionally augmented by voluntary contributions from a Hearse Society connected with the barony, are always more than sufficient for supplying the poor in the barony. Indeed, the greatest part of the Kinneil funds is given to the poor of the town in occasional relief; and this accounts for the great number of occasional poor in the Kinneil list. The large deficiency in the Bo'ness funds is made up by the Duke of Hamilton.

Education.—For several years past there have been about ten schools in the parish. There is but one parochial school, which is very ably conducted by Mr John Stephens, who has been parochial schoolmaster here upwards of forty years. He has the maximum salary, L.34, 4s. 4½d. His house, which was the first in this Presbytery built under the act 1803, contains more than the legal accommodations; but the garden ground is rather deficient in size, for which he receives an equivalent in money. The schoolmaster is also session-clerk, the fees of which office are about L.14 per annum. The average of school-fees is at present under L.40 per annum. The average of scholars, for upwards of thirty years, was considerably above 100; these last three years it has scarcely exceeded the half of that number.

There is a school at Upper Kinneil, supported by the tenantry, for the convenience of children in the barony. That the school-fees may be moderate, the Duke of Hamilton allows the teacher a small salary.

The Dissenters, for three or four years past, have supported a school, which is numerously attended. This and the other schools in the town are not endowed, and most of them are taught by females.

Library.—A subscription library has existed in the parish above thirty years. It contains about 1250 volumes, many of them valuable works.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

A great part of Kinneil Carse has evidently been reclaimed from the Frith, and, being under high-water-mark, is preserved from its encroachments by strong embankments. It is uncertain

when or by whom these embankments were made; probably they were effected by James, first Lord Hamilton.*

Between Bo'ness harbour and the mouth of the Avon, about 1000 acres of a muddy surface are exposed at low water. These, if reclaimed from the sea for agricultural purposes, would be a valuable addition to the Carse of Kinneil. This part of the Frith is becoming shallower, owing to the accumulation of mud brought down by the Avon and Carron, and especially by the Forth; and the beach is assuming more of a fluvial character. Sir Robert Sibbald says, "These shallows have the name of the Lady's Scaup.* The Dutch did offer some time ago to make all that scaup good arable ground and meadow, and to make harbours and towns there in convenient places, upon certain conditions, which were not accepted."

It has been the general opinion that the eastern termination of the Forth and Clyde Canal should have been at Bo'ness, as this town and harbour possess important advantages which can never be obtained at the mouth of Grangeburn. The merchants and inhabitants of Bo'ness, perceiving that this canal (commenced in 1768) would put an end to their trade with Glasgow, hitherto carried on by means of pack-horses and carriers' carts, in order to retain at least a share of it, proposed to make a branch from the great canal to the harbour of Bo'ness. Two Acts of Parliament, and subscriptions to the amount of L.10,000 were obtained; the canal was cut from the river Avon eastward, within a mile of the town, and an aqueduct across the Avon was nearly completed; but, after an outlay of about L. 7500, the work was abandoned, when not half-finished. The circumstances which prevented the accomplishment of this desirable undertaking need not be stated; but they were, and still are, deeply regretted by the inhabitants of this town, especially on seeing their trade turned into another channel. Much of it passed by the canal direct to Glasgow, and the larger vessels discharged at Grangemouth, which was only a creek of this port, but then became its rival, and was eventually erected into a separate port.

* About the year 1470, a charter, under the great seal, was granted, "*Jacobo Domino de Hamylton, de terris infra mare lucrandis, versus terras de Kinnele et Burwardstoun.*"

† Formerly there was an abundant supply of excellent shell fish near this place. In 1808, the Newhaven fishermen came hither in a large fleet of boats, and almost wholly removed an extensive scalp or bed of muscles. A few individuals belonging to the port pursued them in boats, and recovered part of the plunder, but did not succeed in restoring the scalp, as the greatest part of the muscles was cast into deep water, and those which were replaced did not thrive.

When this place was much frequented by shipping, ship-building, for which the beach and the patent slip afforded great convenience, was carried on to a considerable extent. The names of Hart and of Boag were well known, even in Greenock. Very few vessels are built here now; but the patent slip has been frequently employed of late.

As shipping and commerce now find more direct and easy access to various parts of the country than formerly, there seems to be but little prospect of any great return of trade to this place, except by the establishment of manufactures; and few places possess greater advantages for this purpose. A harbour, the safest and most accessible in the Frith,—a ready communication with all parts of the country by land and water,—an abundant supply of coal,—and a large population, having at present but irregular, or inadequate employment,—present unusual advantages for the investment of capital in manufactures.

April 1843.

PARISH OF BATHGATE.

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN & Tweeddale.

THE REV. SAMUEL MARTIN, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY,

Name.—In a grant by Malcolm IV. to the monks of Holyrood, this parish is named Batket. In other charters and deeds of the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries, the name is written Bathket, Batket, Bathcat, and Bathkat. The etymology the writer is unable to explain. The modern name is a manifest corruption of the original appellation.

Extent, Boundaries, and Figure.—The greatest length of this parish, which is in a line running nearly from west-south-west to east-north-east, is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles; its greatest breadth at right angles to its length, is 4 miles. It contains 17.53 square miles: 8921.72 Scotch, or 11214.6 imperial acres.*

* Any one who takes the trouble to compute them, will find that these statements are not exactly, though very nearly, equivalent. They are taken from Forrest's large map of Linlithgowshire, and the writer believes them all to be beyond the truth.

The figure of this parish is nearly that of a parallelogram, of $5\frac{2}{3}$ miles by rather less than $3\frac{1}{2}$, with a projecting branch running a mile more to the west, a similar one, extending about two-thirds of a mile to the east, and a larger protuberance on the north. It is bounded on the north, by Torphichen, and a small portion of Linlithgow; on the east, by Ecclesmachan and Livingston; on the south, by Livingston and Whitburn; and on the west, by Shotts and Torphichen.

Hills and general aspect of the Parish.—The centre of Linlithgowshire is composed of a somewhat elevated plateau, surrounded on all sides by hills of considerable height. The south-west corner of this bounding range, which has no general name, forms the north-eastern portion of the parish of Bathgate, covering nearly one-seventh of its whole extent. Close upon the boundary between Bathgate and Torphichen, the range attains its highest elevation in the hill of Cairnapple, or Cairnpapple, which is said, in various maps, to be 1498 feet above the level of the sea. This, it is apprehended, is considerably beyond the truth. There are two eminences within the boundary of Bathgate, one named the Knock, and the other Reiving Craig, which are not more than from 20 to 30 feet lower than Cairnapple. The western, and to some extent, the southern slope of the hilly mass is rather steep, but contains in it the best land in the parish. The tract at its foot is the lowest ground in the parish, is naturally marshy, and appears once to have been, to a considerable extent, covered with water. The surface water is now removed, and the wetness of the soil somewhat corrected by draining. Beyond this, the rest of the parish, both south and west, is very level, though having on the whole a gentle and continuous rise towards the boundary line in these directions. On the southern half of the west boundary, however, the ground again sinks into a deep moss, which extends between this parish and that of Shotts.

Our climate is rather moist, and vegetation is about a fortnight later here than it is nine or ten miles to the east.

Lakes, &c.—The only lake is a small one of about eleven acres in extent in the park of Balbardie. It is partly artificial, and has an average depth of five feet, though in one place upwards of twelve. It forms a very pretty object in that beautiful and well-wooded park. There is no stream of importance connected in any way with this parish, except the Amond, which forms the boundary for little more than a mile between Bathgate and Whit-

burn. Springs abound in this parish. The water from them is in many places tinged with iron. One, on the estate of Couston, seems to resemble very much in quality the celebrated Dollar water.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The dip of the strata is universally to the west and north-west. The inclination is exceedingly various, ranging from 5° to as much as 45° . The latter is found, however, only where some violent disruption of the strata has taken place. Almost the whole of this parish forms part of the great central coal field of Scotland. In regard to every part of it except the east and south-east, it has been ascertained from working sand from recent borings, that coal is to be found, and generally in workable seams. Whinstone dikes are of frequent occurrence, deranging the seams and oft spoiling the coal. There are also frequent dislocations of the strata, elevating or depressing the beds, sometimes as much as several fathoms, without any intervening dike at all. Above the coal, and so far as has been ascertained, beneath it too, beds of freestone occur. The crowning points of the hilly part of the parish are all formed of secondary trap rocks, such as basalt and whin or greenstone. These give place on the western ridge and slope to coal, as already mentioned, and to thick beds of sandstone, and mountain limestone. These beds are occasionally intersected by a bed of trap, taking sometimes the form of basalt, and amygdaloid, and are all rich in organic remains. In the coarse sandstone, and among the intervening beds of shale lepidodendra have been found, and grasses in the finer grained sandstone. The limestone is supposed by some geologists to be of two distinct formations, the one a marine, the other a lacustrine deposit. The workings in these supposed different deposits are not half a mile asunder; and if the strata are continuous, which has been ascertained only partially, they must lie within a hundred yards of each other. In the one, various species of corallines, ammonites, and other marine shells of every kind, the *pecten*, *nautilus*, *mytilus*, *anomia*, *orthoceras*, &c. abound. They often form, in fact, to a great extent, the mass of the stone. The principal stratum of this formation is about forty feet thick, including seams of flint of varying thickness. Many fissures occur in it, and the lower portion of it may be called cavernous, as it occasionally presents openings into which a man may enter to unknown depths. Various spars occur in the fissures, and stalactites in these openings. This “limestone is associated with hornstone; this mineral form-

ing in it numerous contemporaneous imbedded masses, containing in some places silicified madrepores." (Cunningham's Geology of the Lothians, 7th Vol. Mem. Wern. Soc.) The other, the supposed lacustrine formation, has been described by Dr Hibbert in the Appendix to his valuable memoir on the Burdiehouse Limestone. He states that its mineralogical character indicates that it was elaborated under a very powerful chemical action: and he specifies the separation of the miscellaneous earthy matters which compose it into thin laminæ, some of them of remarkable tenuity, and their assumption of a striped (*rubané*, as it is termed,) disposition,—the blistered appearances, as if from heat, exhibited by the mixed ferruginous and carbonaceous layers which are found in the limestone—the singular wavings which the strata show, not only on the large scale, but even in hand specimens—and the botryoidal and mammillary structure, which other portions present, as all "tending to the hypothesis, that the calcareous beds of Kirkton were elaborated under the action of great heat, or, in other words, that they had their origin in deep fissures, intimately connected with a volcanic focus." He remarks, indeed, that this is no more hypothetical matter. For, "an interposed mass of volcanic tufa of a green colour, which occasionally assumes the compactness of greenstone, is developed among the higher beds of the deposit." This limestone, with its accompaniments, Dr Hibbert pronounces "one of the most unique formations of which Great Britain can boast, indicative of thermal waters belonging to the carboniferous epoch." This limestone, says Mr Cunningham, "contains the usual plants of the coal series, and also fossilized wood." Specimens also have been discovered of a crustaceous animal of very large dimensions. Dr Hibbert has identified them with the *Eurypterus* of North America, described first by Dr Harlan, and referred by him to the class Crustacea, and order Branchiopoda. The Kirkton specimens, however, are of a different species from those found in North America, and are distinguished by their extraordinary size.*

In the limestone beds, lead is found in small, and often interrupt-

* In a note to his paper on the Geology of the Lothians, already quoted, Mr Cunningham says, "to those who are inclined to consider the limestone of Kirkton as of fresh-water origin from the statements of Dr Hibbert in the 18th Vol. Trans. Roy. Soc. Ed. 'that a decidedly fresh-water limestone is there exposed, which is characterized by the absence of all marine shells, coral, &c.' we may mention, that the fact of its being so characterized is incorrect, in as much as we have found in it specimens of the productus."

ed veins, exhibiting also traces of silver. One lime-work retains the name of Silver mine from silver ore having for some time been wrought in it. After yielding a considerable quantity of silver, the veins became so small, that the produce would not repay the expense, and the lime alone is wrought now. Traces of zinc (brown blend) are said to have been observed. Iron pyrites is frequently found, disseminated in its crystalline forms. Iron bands are observed in the Kirkton formation. In connection with the coal strata, iron ore is sometimes found. Formerly this ore was wrought on the estate of Couston, by the Carron Company. It was found in masses like rolled boulders, imbedded among clay, and was a very rich ore. Thin beds of mineral pitch are found in the limestone. Calcspar is, of course, plentiful; heavy-spar, pearl-spar, and Lydian stone, are occasionally found, and, but more rare rarely, chalcidony. In the hilly part of the parish, whinstone, greenstone, and basalt are the prevalent rocks; in the level parts sandstone. The rocks, except on the hills where they frequently crop out, are covered with earth to the depth of 30 or 40 feet. The general subsoil is a wet tenacious clay. Beds and knolls of sand and gravel are, however, of frequent occurrence; and the general substratum of the south-east part of the parish is deep gravel. On this, peat-moss is in some places superimposed. Peat abounds in the parish, and is sometimes of great depth. Fire-clay is also abundant. In all the mosses, trees—generally oaks,—are found imbedded in considerable numbers. Mr Weir, Junior, of Boghead, is in possession of a fine specimen of the head and horns of the red-deer, which were found in a meadow on his property in 1836. The antlers measure respectively 3 feet 2 inches, and 3 feet 3 inches.

There are four limeworks in this parish; and a fifth (Kirkton) recently suspended, besides older workings. One of these works, on the East Mains of Ballincreeff, is wrought in the great stratum already mentioned, to the depth of about 25 feet, including a silicious bed about 5 feet thick, which is not worth burning. The *tirring* is here from 12 to 40 feet. The covering consists first of earth, then indurated slaty clay, or shale, freestone, and flint. The freestone is often wanting. Another work is carried on a little farther south, on the same property. It is in the same stratum, but more advantageously situated for working, being partly on the crop of the bed. The part of the stratum wrought is here somewhat thicker, and contains between 3 and 4 feet of matter not

fit for burning. Close by this work, on the property of Balbardie, a third one is situated in the same stratum. Between them is interposed a whinstone dike, the effect of which is very great. It changes the dip from 10° to 45° . The thickness of the workable bed is here about 40 feet, with the same proportion (3 to 4 feet) of waste. The tiring here is only about 15 feet, and between the surface earth and the lime, nothing but a little loose sandstone is interposed. Dikes of very various thicknesses, it should be added, occur very frequently in this lime, often within every hundred yards. The Silver mine work, opened originally in the parish of Torphichen, has, in the course of time, extended into that of Bathgate. It has been wrought as a lime-work about 100 years. It lies higher in the hills, and is wrought in a different stratum, or, at least, cut off from the other by a wide mass of whin. The bed of lime, which dips to the north-west at the rate of 1 in 3, is about 55 feet thick. Of this 40 feet are wrought, the other 15 feet being generally so much coarser as to be neglected. The tiring is from 60 to 70 feet, consisting chiefly of *blaes*, with 8 feet of very hard freestone. Toads have been found in this lime.

The lime produced at all these works is good.

Coal has been wrought long and extensively in this parish. On the western slope of the hills, and round the town are many old workings, which have been abandoned for a considerable time. Of works at present open there is, 1. Barbauchlaw. The earth is here about 24 feet deep, succeeded by common freestone, a black *blaes*, (bituminous shale,) *faiques*, (thin beds of friable sandstone, intermingled with shale and clay), twenty inches of red sandstone, grey *blaes*, (common shale), very coarse ironstone, 18 inches of coal, fire-clay, grey *blaes*, 6 to 8 feet of freestone, fire-clay of variable thickness, averaging 3 feet, but sometimes wanting altogether, and then at the depth of $16\frac{1}{2}$ fathoms the main coal, 4 feet thick. 2. In the Hardhill coal-work, the first workable seam is found at the depth of 16 fathoms. There is nothing between it and the surface earth but *faiques*. The coal seam presents first 3 feet 2 inches of coal, then 3 inches of clay, and then 10 inches more of coal. The next seam of coal presents 2 feet 10 inches of coal, 4 inches of *blaes*, and 9 inches of coal. It lies 4 fathoms deeper than the first seam, and between them lies some excellent and very white sandstone. From 4 to 6 fathoms deeper lies a parrot coal, which is not yet wrought. The coal here dips to the north-west, at the rate of about 1 in 14. 3. In the Colinshiel coal-work,

after 6 fathoms of earth, freestone appears, succeeded by a seam of coal 2 feet thick ; freestone very hard and white, lies between this and the coal now wrought, which is 3 feet 10 inches thick, and situated 12 fathoms from the surface. 11 fathoms deeper it has been ascertained that another seam occurs, 2 feet 4 inches thick. Four works have been recently given up.

Zoology.—On the banks of Bathgate water, a small stream, which draining the lands east and south of the town, flows past it, and runs towards the north-west, till it joins the Barbauchlaw water, the otter was a few years ago rather abundant. Though its numbers have been very much thinned, it is still occasionally seen and killed there. In the Barbauchlaw water, which is an affluent of the Avon, trout are plentiful. Salmon come up it to spawn in the end of autumn, and return in spring. The following birds are found in the parish :* Grasshopper warbler (*Salicaria locustella*). Mr Weir found a nest of this rare bird in a thick furze bush on the top of Bathgate hills. “ This,” he states, “ is, I believe, the only nest of this bird which has as yet been discovered in Scotland.” Siskin or aberdevine (*Carduelis spinus*). In 1834, a nest of the siskin was discovered in this parish. As the representations of naturalists respecting its habits differ, it may be important to state that the nest was on a spruce fir in the middle of a strong hawthorn hedge, and about 5½ feet from the ground. The birds fed on the ripe seeds of the dandelion. In winter small flocks of them are occasionally seen on Bathgate hills, feeding on the seeds of the knapweed, *Centaurea nigra*. The kingfisher (*Alcedo ispida*) is a regular winter visitant of Bathgate water. In severe seasons, it often seeks its food almost under the wheel of a mill on the stream, although people are constantly passing and repassing. The nightjar or fern-owl (*Caprimulgus Europæus*),—several of these curious birds breed here every year. White’s minute and interesting account of their habits agrees exactly with the observations made on them here. The crossbill (*Loxia Europæa*, Macgillivray,) has lately been seen in considerable numbers. Their food has been chiefly the seeds of the larch, which they obtain by separating the scales of the cones with their powerful bills. The European dipper (*Cinclus aquaticus*), and the sandpiper (*Totanus hypoleucos*) build

* This account of the birds is abridged from a communication furnished to the writer by his friend, Mr Durham Weir, who has paid much attention to this department of natural history, and who has procured within the parish specimens of nearly all the birds mentioned.

† Montague states that this bird is extremely early in its singing. It is so also in its breeding. On April 25, 1834, its first brood was found by Mr Weir to be ripe.

on the brink of the Barbauchlaw water. A few pairs of the ring-ouzel (*Merula torquata*) breed every year about the rocky ground on the top of Bathgate hills. The black-headed gull (*Larus ridibundus*), the coot (*Fulica atra*), the gallinule or water-hen (*Gallinula chloropus*), and wild-duck (*Anas boschas*) breed about the banks of Balbardie loch, and Bathgate water. The same situations are visited during autumn and winter by the redshank sandpiper (*Totanus calidris*), the heron (*Ardea cinerea*), the teal (*Querquedula crecca*), the wigeon (*Mareca penelope*), the crested grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*), the little grebe (*Podiceps minor*), and the bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*). The great cinereous shrike (*Lanius excubitor*, Linn.) the ruff (*Machetes pugnax*, Cuvier,) and the kite (*Milvus regalis*) have been occasionally observed. Golden orioles (*Oriolus galbula*) were once observed, and the turtle-dove (*Columba turtur*) once killed in the parish. Most birds that are reckoned game are found in this parish. Black and red grouse, pheasant, and partridge* all breed in it. The golden plover (*Charadrius pluvialis*) appears in large flocks during winter, and a few breed with us. Small flocks of the dotterel (*Charadrius morinellus*) annually visit our hills in April and May. The quail has also been seen. The common snipe, curlew, and lapwing breed with us. Woodcocks, jack-snipes, fieldfares, and redwings visit us in winter. So do also flocks of snow-buntings, mountain finches, and starlings. In summer we have the spotted fly-catcher, the redstart, the wheatear, the whinchat, the sedge warbler, the black-cap warbler, (rare,) the greater and lesser pettychaps, the white-throat, &c.† There are two rookeries in the parish; one, which is extensive, in the wood close by Balbardie House; the other, which is but the scanty remains of a large one, is on the estate of Boghead.

* A few years ago partridges were very abundant. The inclemency of the last two or three seasons has thinned their numbers to such an extent that there seems a danger of their becoming altogether extinct. In the very cold and wet summer of 1836, several pairs were found dead in the fields with their broods under their wings—a striking proof of the strength of their parental affection. There are at present two to be seen on the estate of Barbauchlaw with beautiful white wings.

† It is impossible to notice the more common birds. From Mr Weir's notes however, the following facts may be added: Goldfinches have repeatedly built their nests in trees in the town of Bathgate. On one occasion, a pair selected for this purpose a poplar growing on the side of one of the most frequented streets. They became so tame, as to alight in the gutters with the sparrows in quest of food. A female goldfinch was known, twice at least, to pair with a male linnet in the wild state. The produce from this union were not admired as songsters. It is well known that bullfinches commit great devastation among the buds of fruit trees and bushes. Mr Weir caught a male and a female on their nest in the act of feeding their young ones. He found their mouths full of small maggots. It is not improbable, therefore, that in destroying the buds, the birds are in fact destroying a far worse plague to the gardener than they themselves are imagined to be.

Among rarer insects, the humming-bird moth (*Macroglossa stellatarum*), and the death's head moth (*Acherontia Atropos*) may be mentioned as having been met with.

Botany.—Of the rarer species of plants found in this parish, the following may be mentioned :

<i>Paris quadrifolia</i>	<i>Orchis bifolia</i>	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>
<i>Adoxa moschatellina</i>	<i>Polygonium bistorta</i>	<i>Asperula odorata</i>
<i>Cistus helianthemum</i>	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	<i>Glycoma hederacen</i>
<i>Erysimum alliaris</i>	<i>Pinguicula vulgaris</i>	<i>Saxifraga granulata</i>
<i>Solanum Dulcamara</i>	<i>Senecio saracenicus</i>	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
<i>Malva moschata</i>	<i>Hippuris vulgaris</i>	<i>Linum catharticum.</i>

The *Geranium phæum* and *Saponaria officinalis* have been found growing wild: but it is not certain that they are indigenous.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is little of historical interest connected with this parish. The barony of Bathgate formed part of the dower of Marjory Bruce, “the lass who brought the sceptre into the Stewarts’ house.” A castle on it, situate in the low grounds south of the town, which must then have been a morass,* was from this date occasionally inhabited by the royal family. Here Walter Stewart himself died in 1328. Hardly a vestige even of the foundations of the castle is now to be discovered. Kitchen utensils of brass, have, however, sometimes been found about it; and coffins, formed of flat stones, have been torn up by the plough in the neighbouring grounds. Some of the inhabitants of this parish suffered hardship and loss in the time of the Covenanters. One man, by name James Davie, was shot by one of a party of dragoons, who dispersed a congregation assembled in a hollow on the farm of Blackdub, in the western part of the parish. The worshippers had escaped across a strip of deep moss, which interposed an effectual obstacle to the progress of their mounted pursuers. But while they stood on the other side gazing at their enemies, and thinking themselves quite safe, the troopers fired their carbines at them across the moss. The only shot that took effect killed Davie. His body lies in the old churchyard of Bathgate,† with this in-

* Some remains of the causeways, by which access was obtained to the castle through this morass, still exist.

† There are two grave-yards in this parish. The old is a full mile to the south-east of the town. It surrounds the crumbling walls of what was once the parish church. When this church was built, and when abandoned, is utterly unknown. There was at least one other church between this ancient one and the present church. No feasible conjecture occurs to account for the adoption of a site for the church so far from the town, and so inconvenient for almost the whole inhabitants of the parish, except this, that it might have been originally the chapel connected with the Stewarts’ castle. The new churchyard is in the centre of the town, surrounding the present church.

scription, "Here lies the body of James Davie, who was shot at Blackdub, April 1673, by Heron, for his adhering to the word of God and Scotland's covenanted work of Reformation, in opposition to Popery, Prelacy, perjury, and tyranny."

Eminent Men.—Dr Fleming, the celebrated naturalist, and now Professor of Natural Philosophy in King's College, Aberdeen, is a native of this parish.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are the Earl of Hoptoun; Colonel Swindel Norval of Boghall; Mr Marjoribanks of Marjoribanks; Mr Hart of Kirkton; Captain Sandilands of Cous-ton, &c.

Parochial Registers.—The registers of this parish are somewhat voluminous. They had been well kept, except about the commencement of the present century. Portions, however, have been lost. The register of births begins in 1672, and, with a blank between 1684 and 1687, and another between 1694 and 1721, continues to the present time. The register of proclamations also begins in 1672, and is perfect with the omission of but two years to 1767; from that date to 1789, a record is possessed only for six years; from 1789, the register is complete. The register of deaths begins 1698, and continues to 1710. From 1710 to 1769, a record is preserved only for eighteen scattered years. From 1769, the register is complete. Of the Records of the Kirk-session's Actings, Vol. I. embraces the period from 1633 to 1645, and from 1647 to 1650; Vol. ii. from 1672 to 1689. In other three volumes, the record is complete from 1694 to 1792. From that year to 1820, only some loose scrolls of minutes are in existence; but from 1820 to this day they are complete.

Antiquities.—“Near Bathgate,” says Penney,* “are memorial remains of Druid worship.” The writer of this notice gives the statement as he finds it, but does not know to what it refers. In the stone coffins already referred to, some copper coins were found. There have also been turned up, in different parts of the parish, coins of Edward I., Queen Elizabeth, and Charles II.

Modern Buildings.—Building goes on steadily in the town of Bathgate. The principal recent buildings are the Academy, a distillery, brewery, and gas-work. Freestone, either from the

* Account of Linlithgowshire, by John Penney.

quarries of the parish, or from those in the neighbourhood, is always employed.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish has been steadily increasing, as the following table will show :

In 1755, the population was	.	1594
1791,	. . . . .	2925
1801,	. . . . .	2513
1821,	. . . . .	3283
1831,	. . . . .	3610
1841,	. . . . .	3927

The increase in the last ten years being 317, or less than ten per cent. on the whole, seems to be nothing more than might be expected in the natural progress of population. Of the above number, 2809 resided in the town of Bathgate, 103 in a small village, and 1015 in the country part of the parish.

The yearly average of births it is impossible to state accurately. Many parents will not be at the trouble or expense of registration. Estimating from the number baptized in the parish church, the number of births will be about 97 or 98 per annum. The average of deaths for the last seven years previous to 1838 has been 73, of which 19, or 26 per cent. were above seventy years of age, and 9, or 12.33 per cent. above eighty. Taking the population during these seven years as averaging 3700, the annual mortality was 1.973 per cent. This very low rate proves the general healthiness of our climate and situation. It may be also partly attributed to the copious supply of excellent water brought into the town from the high grounds above. The yearly average of marriages for the same period was 28.

This parish has few resident heritors. Only five or six families of independent fortune reside in it. There are connected with it nineteen proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The number of imperial acres, either constantly cultivated or occasionally in tillage, is 8712; those which have never been cultivated, and which remain constantly waste or in pasture, amount to 803; under wood, 506, of which only 2 or 3 are natural. The rest of the area of the parish is occupied by the site of the town with its gardens, by fences, and roads. Probably one-half of the waste land might be reclaimed at a profitable rate. The only thing like common occurs in the case of two pieces

of ground; one of four or five acres, over which a number of people have the right of *feal and divot* (taking turf for putting on the ridges of houses thatched with straw;) the other of four acres, on which the burgh has the right of holding the annual fairs. The trees that are chiefly planted are larch, silver, spruce, and Scotch firs, oak, elm, ash, and plane. The management of the plantations is in general good.

Rent—Wages.—The rent of land varies exceedingly, according to situation and quality. Inclosures round the town are sometimes let as high as L. 3, 3s. per imperial acre. On the other hand, there is land let at very little more than 7s. The average per imperial acre may be 16s. 6d.

Husbandry.—Sheep are hardly kept in this parish at all. The only pure breed of cattle found here is the Ayrshire. Mixed breeds are very numerous. The husbandry is fully more pastoral than arable, the vicinity of the metropolis, and the nature of the soil, making the dairy a very profitable part of the farmer's arrangements. Most of the late improvements in husbandry are finding their way into this parish, in so far as climate and soil will admit of them. The improvements most required are draining and planting. In regard to the latter, some proprietors have of late done a good deal. Mr Weir, Senior, of Boghead, has been the most extensive improver in this way, having, in the course of twenty years, planted 86 acres. But many properties continue almost destitute of wood, though its shelter is in this district very valuable. In the way of draining and reclaiming waste land, a great deal has of late been done by the resident proprietors, who farm their own land, and by tenants. Some tenants have put drains in every field of their farms. The ordinary duration of leases is nineteen years. Rents generally are fixed in money. The terms of leases are commonly fair to both landlord and tenant. If the stipulations of a lease are strict, yet deviations from them are never challenged, if the proprietor sees that the tenant is doing justice to the land. Farm-houses and buildings have latterly been considerably improved. In very many cases, however, they are much inferior to what they should be. This, with want of capital, and, in some cases, want of encouragement by the proprietors, are the greatest obstacles to improvement in the agricultural state of this parish.

Quarries, &c.—Besides the lime and coal-works already noticed, there are several freestone and whinstone quarries. Of the for-

mer, only one is constantly wrought. It is in the park of Balbardie, and affords a very excellent and beautiful building stone. The whinstone quarries are chiefly wrought for materials for the roads.

Produce.—

The produce of grain crops averages in value, as nearly as can be ascertained,	L.7541	5	3
Potatoes, turnips, &c.	5448	5	0
Hay,	1892	0	0
Land employed in pasture,	13160	0	0
Mines and quarries,	6000	0	0
Other produce, gardens, woods, &c. at least	500	0	0
Total,	L.34541	10	3

Manufactures.—The mass of the town population is manufacturing. There are about 500 handloom weavers, all supplied with work from Glasgow, except a few employed by an Edinburgh shawl-manufacturer, and a few engaged with *customer-work*. 122 women and girls are employed in tambouring, and 38 in sewing webs. The wages of weaving, though occasionally good, have, on the average, afforded but a scanty remuneration to the workman for years past. Tambouring and sewing webs have, for a considerable period, been very inadequately paid. Two brick and tile-works afford occupation to several hands. A distillery has been in active operation for a number of years. A considerable brewery was established somewhat later.

Associations.—There is an Agricultural Society here, which has an annual show, at which premiums are distributed. Its influence has been decidedly beneficial. A Horticultural Society has been in existence for six years.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Town.—The town of Bathgate had in 1841 a population of 2809. It was originally a burgh of barony, a baron baillie being appointed by the proprietor of the estate of Bathgate: In 1824, with the consent of the late Mr Marjoribanks of Balbardie, who was then superior of the town, an Act of Parliament was obtained, by which it was erected into an independent burgh of barony, and all provision made for the government, police, &c. of the town. It is now governed by a provost, three baillies, treasurer, and twelve councillors, the provost, two baillies, treasurer, and four councillors being elected yearly by the burgesses. The burgh funds consist of road money, customs, common good, and an assessment limited by the act to 1s. a-pound on the valued rent of the houses in the burgh; from these funds the “paving, lighting, and improving the burgh, and establishing a police therein,” are defray-

ed. Much has been done in the last four years to improve the pavements and causeways; and, a gas-work having been established, the principal streets are now tolerably lighted. The chief employment of the inhabitants is, as already mentioned, manufacturing. There is a weekly corn-market, held on Wednesday, at which considerable quantities of grain are sold. It is by much the most important market within the county. The National Bank of Scotland and the Glasgow Union have each a branch here. At the last revision of the roll of electors for the county, the number of electors deriving qualifications from property in the town was 72. In the landward part of the parish, the number was 61; total, 133.

There is only one place deserving the name of a village, viz. Armadale, two miles west from the town of Bathgate.

Means of Communication.—The post-office here receives letters twice a-day from the east, and once from the west. But the dispatch of letters is not so convenient, the letter-bags being all made up at night. The communications by roads are on all hands very commodious, and the roads in general well kept. The turnpike-road from Borrowstownness towards Lanark runs for about four miles and a-half through the parish, and the middle Edinburgh and Glasgow road for a trifle more than seven. On the latter there travelled for some years from twelve to eighteen stage-coaches daily. All have been given up since the railway was opened. Good bridges are found wherever bridges are needed. The fences consist chiefly of thorns, with here and there a considerable mixture of beech. Much attention has been paid to them; and generally they are in pretty good order. An act has been obtained for a railway from Bathgate to the Slamanan Railway; but there is little likelihood of its being soon acted upon.

Four mills in the parish, two provided with steam-engines, afford all facility for making flour, meal, and pot-barley.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated in the town of Bathgate, and stands very near the centre of the parish, being very little more than four miles from the western, and about three miles and a-half from the eastern end of the parish. Only two families are above four miles from it. Though built in 1739, it is in very good repair. But, built when the population was not much more, if more at all, than one-third of its present amount, it has become totally inadequate to the number of inhabitants. It is seated (at the rate of 18 inches a-sitting) for 719 persons. Ac-

according to the ordinary method of procedure, the sittings, with the exception of the communion seats, which are free to every one, and the minister's seat, were divided among the heritors in proportion to the valued rent of their lands, and by them allotted to their tenants. From this arrangement it results, that the whole inhabitants of the town can have right to sittings only in the seats pertaining to the Bathgate property, on which the town is built, and even these must be shared with the rural population on that property, so that the provision for 2664 persons is just 100 sittings. Though this is much the worst case, it is not a solitary instance of inadequate supply. In 1836, when these calculations were made, the estate of Barbauchlaw had dwelling on it 217 persons, while its proportion of sittings is only 33; that of Couston 145 persons, and 36 sittings; that of Boghead, 86 persons and 27 sittings. One or two other estates, it should at the same time be stated, have more than a needful amount of sittings. The utter inadequacy of the accommodation has occasioned a number of disputes about seats, and has compelled some persons to join Dissenting congregations, who otherwise would not have left the Established Church.

The manse was built in 1828. The glebe is about 11 acres in extent, and worth, on an average, about L.19. The stipend consists of L.76, 18s. 2½d., 45 bolls, 1 firloft, 1 peck, 2 lippies of meal, and 19 bolls, 1 peck of barley.

There are three Dissenting chapels in the parish. Two belong to the Relief and the Associate Synod, and the third is at present in connection with no religious body. The ministers of all are paid by their congregations.

With the Established Church are connected 2185 persons;* with the Relief, 674; with the Associate Synod, 193; and with the other congregation, 267. With congregations out of the parish are connected 78 persons, (of whom 14 belong to the Established Church, 5 are Episcopalians, and 7 Roman Catholics,) leaving 353 not belonging to any congregation, or whose religious profession was not ascertained at the time of making the census.† In none of the places of worship is the attendance on divine ordinances what it should be. In the Established Church it varies from

* All the statements here made refer to August 1836, when they were given in evidence before the Religious Instruction Commissioners.

† This number is much larger than that returned by the writer, many having represented themselves to him as Dissenters, whom the Dissenting ministers did not acknowledge as belonging to their congregations.

about 500 in summer to 300 in winter. In the three Dissenting chapels, which contain 1569 sittings, the average attendance was stated by the ministers to be 780, and the number of sittings let 630; but as these congregations embrace 392 persons beyond the bounds of the parish, the proportion, allowing both classes to be equally exemplary, would give an attendance from the parishioners of 603, and 487 sittings rented by them. The number of persons who have been admitted to the communion of the Established Church, and have not been cut off from that privilege, nor have joined themselves to any other congregation, is about 660; but as this includes old people who cannot attend, some careless people who will not attend, and some whose necessities keep them back from the house of God, it is greatly above the number who join at any given communion. In winter, about 320, and in summer about 350 communicate.

There is no religious society in the parish. The collections in the Established Church for religious and charitable objects, independent of the ordinary collections for the poor, have averaged annually L.20, 5s. 6d.

Education.—Besides two schools exclusively for sewing, there are three schools in this parish, viz. one parochial, one endowed, and one unendowed. In the unendowed school, only English, writing, and arithmetic, with a little geography, are taught. The parochial schoolmaster, though qualified to teach classical literature, French, and mathematics, is seldom required to teach anything more than the teacher of the unendowed school. The endowed school is an institution known by the name of the Bathgate Academy, established under the will of Mr John Newlands. Mr Newlands was a native of the parish, who, after being bred a carpenter, left Bathgate at an early age and proceeded to Jamaica, where by degrees he amassed a considerable fortune, and ultimately became a wealthy planter. He died in that island in 1799, leaving by his will the bulk of his property to certain trustees,* “to erect a free school in the parish of Bathgate.” The will, however, was challenged by friends of the testator in Scotland, and the claim of the trustees opposed by the executors in Jamaica. The trustees took alarm at the prospect of being involved in heavy law expenses, and would probably have abandoned the trust, had not one of them,

* When the will came to be acted on, a number of the nominations to the office of trustee fell, from misnomers, &c. The only nominations which held, were those of Mr Majoribanks of Balbardie, Lord Polkemmet, Colonel Gillon of Wallhouse, and the minister of the parish. The eldest sons of the three first, and the successor of the last, are the present trustees.

the late Mr Marjoribanks, given his own personal security to his co-trustees, that they should not be put to expense in the matter. After a litigation which lasted till 1814, the will was almost entirely set aside. Only L.14,500 were received by the trustees, instead of L.60,000 or L.70,000, as the testator intended.* As the remittances reached this country, the trustees began to salary the teachers in the parish, and to employ others, till they had five schools with six teachers in different parts of the parish, to all of which the children of the inhabitants had gratuitous admission. In 1831, the funds having considerably increased, the trustees commenced the erection of a building to the south-east of the town, which was opened as the Bathgate Academy in the autumn of 1833. It is a handsome structure, consisting of a centre and two wings connected by two colonnades. In each wing are two classrooms 36 feet by 24. Behind one of the colonnades is the room for writing and arithmetic, 36 by 29. The centre, and the part of the building behind the other colonnade, are occupied by the library-room and a very good house for the rector. There is a full acre of play-ground in front. There are, at present, four masters in the Academy: a rector, who takes charge of all the pupils who learn Greek, Latin, or French, and who also has classes for drawing, music, and composition; a master for writing, arithmetic, and mathematics; and two for English. The rector and two English masters also teach their own pupils geography. A sewing mistress was added to the establishment a year ago.

At these three schools, above 600 scholars are in steady attendance; and from 60 to 80 more may be entered in the course of a twelvemonth. At the last examination of the Academy, which was in August, there were 537 attending, of whom 6 studied Greek; 47 Latin; 71 French; 178 geography; 71 drew geographical sketches; 75 practised English composition, and were trained in drawing, and the elements of musical composition; 368 learned writing; as many arithmetic; and 8 mathematics.

The parochial schoolmaster has the legal accommodation and the maximum salary, and receives about L.26 in fees. The rector of the academy has a free house, garden, and a salary of L.140 per annum; the other three masters each L.105. The unendowed teacher receives about L.26 from fees. The rate of fees in the parochial school is, for English, 2s. 6d. a-quarter; English with

* The testator's meaning could be proved; but the language of the will was declared not to express what he meant it to express.

writing, 3s. ; and with arithmetic, 3s. 6d. ; Latin or French, 5s. ; practical mathematics, 5s.

There is hardly a house in the parish so situated as to make it a matter of much hardship for a child of six or seven years of age to attend some school. The numbers-in actual attendance, compared with the population, show that the people in general are alive to the benefits of education. The Academy being free to the children of all parishioners, no additional school is needed in this parish, though an additional teacher in the Academy would be of great advantage. But the funds do not at present admit of the addition.

Literature.—Connected with the Academy, there is a library for the use of the pupils, containing above 700 volumes, chiefly suited to youth. There is also a subscription library in the town, recently begun, and now containing above 280 volumes.

Friendly Societies.—There are seven such societies in the parish ; one, still the largest, instituted some years previous to 1734 ; the others respectively in 1759, 1792, 1799, 1806, 1809, and 1810. They are all supported by annual payments from the members, who amount to 969. They are all intended for the support of the members in sickness and old age. Some of them also pay a certain sum for the funeral charges of the members. These societies are of vast benefit to the members ; and though it may well be doubted whether they promote industry, they help to cherish among them a spirit of independence.

Savings Bank.—There has been a savings bank here since 1827. A view of its operations for the last six years shows these results :

	1837.	1838.	1839.	1840.	1841.	1842.
Deposited, .	L.160	L.74	L.210	L.218	L.288	L.272
Drawn out, .	130	211	252	333	245	318

At the last balancing of the books, there was in the bank L.629, 10s. The investments are chiefly made by servants, weavers, mechanics, &c.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The poor are not more numerous than might be expected in such a population as that of Bathgate, though it must be acknowledged that unwillingness to apply for parochial relief is on the decline, and that relatives in many instances seem to feel little annoyance at those near to them becoming the objects of public charity.

	On the poor's roll.	With their families they amounted to	Occasional poor.	Total expense, including ma- nagement.
There were in 1835,	47	86	32	L.225 7 5½
1836,	45	77	19	185 17 10
1837,	39	65	29	226 18 0½
1842,	70		45	308 15 10½

There was besides an expense for two lunatics, in 1835, of L.3, 19s. 2d.; in 1836, L.39, 9s. 10½d.; in 1837, L.16, 0s. 6d.

The lowest allowance to an individual pauper was 2s. a-month; the highest, 3s. 6d. a-week, being an allowance to a widow and family. To meet this expenditure there was received

	In 1835.	1836.	1837.	1842.
From church collections,	L.48 17 0½	L.47 7 0½	L.42 1 7½	L.39 19 6½
contrib. from herit.,	101 19 1	89 10 2½	183 0 10	217 7 8½
int. of lent money,	44 0 0	44 0 0	44 0 0	53 10 0
other funds,	26 15 7	7 8 0	10 1 6	7 11 0
Total,	L.211 11 8½	L.188 0 2½	L.279 3 11½	L.318 8 3

The proprietors of three-fourths of the land being non-resident, the ordinary funds could not be expected to be adequate to the support of the poor. The heritors made a voluntary contribution for that end; and to make their contributions equal, they are just according to the valued rent of their lands. The great increase in 1842 is chiefly to be ascribed to the depression of trade. The interest is the produce of L.1100, which was left to the poor of Bathgate by Henry Calder, Esq. of Edisto Island, Carolina, a native of the parish, in 1820, but was only recovered by the present minister in 1828. The other funds arise from dues on proclamations, mortcloths, &c.

Prison.—Bathgate is a sheriffdom by itself, a distinction which it probably owes to its ancient connection with the royal family of Scotland. Practically, however, the Sheriff of the county is now always appointed Sheriff of Bathgate too. Sheriff-courts are held at Bathgate four times a-year. There is a small prison, comprising three strong cells for criminals, and a debtors' room, the whole government of which is in the magistrates of the burgh. It is much too confined to be a very healthy place of confinement. During last year (1838) there has been no person confined in it either for debt or police offences, but upwards of twenty deserters or persons charged with military offences, mostly for a single night, on their route either to Glasgow or Edinburgh.

Fairs, &c.—There are seven fairs for the sale of cattle and horses held annually in Bathgate, the principal of which take place on the Wednesdays after Whitsunday and Martinmas, O. S. There are seven inns in the parish; and, altogether, 31 persons licensed to retail intoxicating liquors. This excessive multiplication

of licenses, and the facility with which they are granted, have proved very injurious to the economical and moral habits of many of the population.

Fuel.—The fuel used in this parish is almost entirely coal. The use of peat has, almost universally, given place to that of coal. The price of the latter varies from 8d. to 10d. a-load. Many of the parishioners, however, get coal, not from any of the pits in the parish, but from Sir William Baillie's coal-work at Benhar, parish of Whitburn, which yields the best coal in this part of the country.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Very great changes have taken place in this parish since the former Account was published. The middle road between Edinburgh and Glasgow, which is by much the most frequented line between these two cities, and which passes through the town of Bathgate, was not at that time even contemplated. No direct road to the east and west existed, except parish roads, the lines, levels, and keeping of which, were all extremely bad. Increased facility of communication has been of material service in helping forward the other improvements, to which the gradual progress of the country has been leading. Considerably more than double the number of acres is now regularly under the plough; and, from draining, better modes of culture, &c. the produce is even more than proportionally augmented. Dairy-farming is now followed to a much greater extent than formerly, and has in considerable measure taken the place of the feeding of cattle. A very large quantity of milk and butter is sent to Edinburgh and Airdrie every week.

The greatest change, however, has been effected by the introduction of the cotton manufacture into the town. The increase of the population previous to the publication of the former Statistical Account, was ascribed mainly to the increase of the coal-works. The coal-works then were situated close by the town, and the colliers were chiefly resident in it. The working of coal is probably as extensive now as it was then. But the old works having been abandoned, the collier population is now more numerous in the country than in the town. Yet the whole increase of population in the rural part is but 100, while the town population has very nearly doubled. One-half of the whole inhabitants of the parish are now, in one way or other, dependent on manufactures. We share, of course, in both the good and the evil of such occupations.

April 1843.

PARISH OF LINLITHGOW.*

PRESBYTERY OF LINLITHGOW, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN & TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ANDREW BELL, D. D., MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE earliest form in which the name of the parish appears, is in the charter of David I. to Holyrood, where it is spelt Linlitcu. From the time of that prince, the orthography is very various, changing with the fashions of different times, and the taste of different writers; thus it appears as Linliscu, Lynlithkon, Linliscoth, &c. till it assumes its present form, Linlithgow, popularly contracted Lithgow. The etymology of the name is variously given; some ascribe to it a British origin, its component parts being traced to words in that language, which signify the lake of the expansive hollow; others derive the word from the Gaelic, and render it, *the lake of the grey dog*, supporting this opinion by a reference to the armorial bearings on the common seal of the burgh, which represent a dog tied to a tree,—referring, as is said, to the old legend of such an animal being discovered bound to a tree on the island which adorns the east end of the lake. Another, and perhaps the most probable etymology, is that which derives the word from the Saxon, in which language, Linlithgow signifies *the lake of the sheltered valley*, an appellation descriptive of the situation of that beautiful sheet of water, which, being the most remarkable object in the scenery, would naturally determine the name of the town and district.

Extent, &c.—The mean extent of the parish is, from east to west, about 5 miles, and about 3 from north to south. Its boundaries are, on the north, Borrowstownness, Carriden, and Abercorn; on the east, Abercorn and Ecclesmachan; on the south, Uphall, Ecclesmachan, and Bathgate; and on the west, Torphichen and the river Avon, which divides it from Muiravonside in Stirlingshire. The surface of the parish is very unequal; towards the east and north-east it is level, but it rises toward the south, where it is crossed

* Obligingly furnished by the Rev. W. S. Smart, Linlithgow.

in its whole extent by that range of hills which runs obliquely through a considerable part of the county. Several of the eminences in this range within the parish attain a considerable elevation: the most remarkable are the heights named Cocklerue and Binny-Craig, the former of which rises more than 600, and the other 600 feet above the level of the sea. Nearer the centre of the range there is a lower set of heights, named from the now nearly extinct village of Riccarton, and connected with the former series by lateral rising grounds, which slope down towards the town of Linlithgow. On the north side of the lake, there is another hill, which, though not so elevated as those already named, from its neighbourhood to the Frith of Forth, commands a very extensive and beautiful prospect. All of these heights are either cultivated or in pasture; some of them are wooded, and the acclivity is gentle.

Meteorology.—No regular register has been kept in the parish. It may be stated, however, that the prevailing winds are from the west and south-west; that the climate is good, and exceedingly favourable to health. Only a few years back, an individual died in the town, considerably above 100 years of age. Several persons now living in the parish are above 90; while 80 and upwards is no uncommon period of life. There are no diseases peculiar to the parish: It has often escaped the ravages of those severe epidemics which have, from time to time, desolated other parts of the country. In 1646, the Scottish Parliament held its meetings in Linlithgow, when the plague was prevalent in the metropolis.

Hydrography.—The parish abounds with springs, furnishing a copious supply of the purest water. A well at Carubber was formerly resorted to, as possessing similar properties to the Moffat Spa; it is now totally neglected. Even the site of it is known to few.

There is only one loch in the parish—that, on the north bank of which the town and palace of Linlithgow are situated. This fine lake is about one mile in length, about a-quarter of a mile at its greatest breadth, and covers 154 English acres; in some places the depth is considerable. Several springs well up from the bottom, which, with a rivulet toward the east end, and the surplus water from the town, are its feeders. It discharges itself by a rivulet, named the Loch-burn, which, after a short course, empties itself into the Avon. Embosomed amid rising grounds, some of which are finely wooded, with the gardens to the north of the town stretching along its shore, and overlooked by the noble

ruins of the ancient palace,—the scenery of this lake is very lovely, and from several points where the town is not seen, it has much the appearance of a sheet of water in some sequestered Highland vale. There is no river properly belonging to the parish. The Avon bounds it for several miles on the west, and, during that part of its course, presents some very pleasing scenery, the effect of which is now much heightened by the aqueduct which carries the Union Canal across the valley, and the viaduct which, at a lower point, conducts, over the same valley, the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

With the exception of the account in the last Statistical Account, no history of the parish has been published. Copious notices of it are, however, to be found in the histories of the county, published by Sibbald and Penny. A MS. history of the town, by Crawford, author of the history of Renfrewshire, is said to exist. It may also be stated, that a very beautifully illustrated account of the Palace has lately been published by Mr Collie, architect, Glasgow.

Historical Notices.—From its locality, and the residence of the Scottish monarchs in the palace of Linlithgow, the parish has been the scene of several memorable incidents. The most remarkable of these are mentioned in the last Statistical Account; and the present notices embrace the same incidents, with some additional details. It was on the lands now belonging to the town, and lying to the east of it, that Edward I. encamped on the night previous to the battle of Falkirk, so disastrous to the Scottish patriots under Wallace. The warlike monarch slept in the open fields, with his horse beside him. During the night the animal struck the King on the side. The accident caused great confusion in the camp; and, to allay the tumult, Edward, regardless of pain, mounted his charger, and, by riding through the army, convinced the soldiers that he was in safety. The same monarch is said to have built a castle or peel at Linlithgow in the year 1300, where he spent the following Christmas. This castle was left by him garrisoned with English troops. Its capture by the Scottish patriots was one of the many daring exploits which distinguished the war of independence under Bruce. The following account of the surprisal is given in Tytler's History of Scotland: "Binny, who was known to the garrison, and had been employed in leading hay into the fort, communicated his design to a party of Scottish sol-

diers, whom he stationed in ambush near the gate. In his large wain he contrived to conceal eight armed men, covered with a load of hay. A servant drove the oxen, and Binny himself walked carelessly at his side. When the portcullis was raised, and the wain stood in the middle of the gateway, interposing a complete barrier to its descent, the driver cut the ropes which harnessed the oxen ; upon which signal, the armed men suddenly leapt from the cart, the soldiers in ambush rushed in, and so complete was the surprise, that, with little resistance, the garrison were put to the sword, and the place taken." Bruce, who, it is said, was privy to the design, rewarded the brave peasant with a grant of lands ; and his descendants long survived, bearing in their coat-of-arms a hay-wain, with the motto, "virtute doloque."

Linlithgow is memorable as the place where the remarkable apparition warned James IV. against his expedition into England, which terminated in the fatal field of Flodden. An aisle in the church, where the King was, as Pitscottie says, "verrie sad and dollorous, makand his prayers to God to send him guid success in his voyage," is shown as the place where the scene occurred. The probability is, that it was a device of the Queen, then in the neighbouring palace, abetted by some of the nobles, in order to dissuade James from an undertaking to which she and many of the nobility were averse. The unfortunate issue of the war corresponding with the warning given, would, in that superstitious age, lead men to regard the agent in this device as a messenger from heaven.

In the year 1526, the battle of Linlithgow Bridge was fought between the faction of the Earl of Angus, who had the possession of the person of James V., then a minor, and the party which sought to deliver the Prince from the influence of the Douglasses. The conflict began on the haugh of Manuel, but the main conflict was close by the village of Linlithgow Bridge, which has given its name to the engagement. The Earl of Lennox, the chief of the party opposed to Angus, was, after being promised quarter, slain by Sir James Hamilton. The place of his interment was long known as Lennox's Cairn.

The Regent Murray was shot in the street of Linlithgow by Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh. The house from which the assassin took aim is still shown, though, from the removal of the old front, which projected considerably further out on the street than the present, it must now present a very different appearance. Situated in the most narrow part of the town, where the street is not

many feet wide, it presented a most favourable position for the execution of the murder, as the Regent, on horseback, was compelled to advance slowly, owing to the multitude by which he was surrounded. Hamilton, it is said, had the walls of the room hung with black cloth, to prevent his shadow being seen; and the tradition of the town is, that the neighbouring lane leading to the back of the town, where his horse was stationed, was choked with bushes and other substances, to retard pursuit.

At the rejoicings, in 1662, in celebration of the restoration of Charles II., Linlithgow obtained an unenviable notoriety in Scottish history, by the burning of the Solemn League and Covenant. This act was not, however, authorized by the inhabitants, but appears to have been the deed of the chief actors in it, Mr Ramsay the minister, and Mr R. Mylne, then dean of guild; both of whom had signed the document which, with every circumstance of ignominy, they then consigned to the flames. In the records of the council there is no minute bearing upon the incident. There is a minute of a previous date enjoining the celebration of the restoration in 1660, which, though not bearing upon this incident, may be quoted as a specimen of the manner in which our fathers were wont to keep their holidays.

“ 18th July 1660.—In respect that the morrow is appointed ane solemne day of thanksgivin to the Lord ffor the King’s Majestie his saife returne, without debait or bluid, to sitt upon his father’s throne in England, in a peaceable and laudable way, upon the unanimous call of his guid subjects thair, By the imediate hand of God, contrair to all men’s expectatioun, to the terrour and astonishment of his enemies, and for the solemnizatioun thair of, thair is a sermon to be in the morning, and after sermon the marches, in a ordourlie and congratulatory way arr to be ryddin, and having closed the marches ryde, the couucil and others arr to meitt together at denner; and they appoint and ordein bonfeires to be got, one by the haille inhabitants, at ffour clock efternuin, at the ringing of the belles and intimation of the drume, and efter denner the haille counsell and honest men are to go throu the toune to see the bonfeires, and who refuseth to get one, and to sing a song of praise to the Lord at the cross.”

Various meetings of the Scottish Parliament were held in Linlithgow. The last of them was in 1646, when Edinburgh was infected with the plague. A curious minute of the town-council, relating to the sitting of this Parliament, may be given as illustrative of the

state of society at the time. “ The counsall, upon the coming of the Comitie of Estattes to sitt within this borough, fering that sundrie of the inhabitants takend advantage of the thrang that will be by thaim, will extort the leadges resorting heirto for thair chambers and bedes; thairfor they have sett doune thir pryse following, ordeining the samen to be observit by the haill inhabitants, and no contraveint, viz. the pryse of the noblemen’s chamber, cole, and candle, with twa bedes for 24 pound 20 shillings; and of the gentlemen and commissioners of burrowes, the pryse 13s. 4; and the pryse of the rest of the leadges resorting to the said burrow for cole, candle, and the bede, 24 pounds 6 shillings 8; and the groomes and footmen are to pay for their bede 3 shillings.” In the last Statistical Account, mention is made of a singular instance of revenge which occurred in the early part of last century.

Eminent Characters.—Linlithgow is famed as the birth-place of the beautiful, but unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots.

Several of the rectors of the burgh school have been men of eminence. Among these may be mentioned Ninian Winzet, the rector at the time of the Reformation, and who is distinguished as the defender of the falling Church of Rome, in several encounters with John Knox. Kirkwood is a better known individual, as the author of the Latin Grammar, which was used in Scotland till superseded by that of Ruddiman. He also made himself famous in his day by his long controversy with the council, and his satire upon that body entitled “ The Twenty-seven Gods of Linlithgow.” The celebrated John Earl of Stair is said to have been educated by Kirkwood, and to have boarded in his house. In later times, the residence of the Lord President Blair was in the parish, who built the House of Avonton, near to Linlithgow.

Land-owners.—The principal proprietors of land are Mr Stewart of Physgill; the Earls of Rosebery, Hopetoun, and Selkirk; Mr Seton of Preston; and the Duke of Hamilton.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of parochial registers is February 1613, and the volumes are regularly kept.

Antiquities.—Of the Roman period, few remains exist in the parish. A Roman road runs along the summit of the height on the north side of the lake, terminating, at its western extremity, in the parish of Bo’ness, at an old military station on the line of the great wall. The road appears to have formed part of the communications connected with that remarkable rampart. Near to the road, an urn containing ashes, was dug up a few years back.

In the last Statistical Account, it is said, that, at the bottom of the Hill of Cocklerue, vestiges of a military station may be traced; and “that, on an eminence in the south-east of the parish, above Ochiltree Mill, traces still more distinct of a camp are to be seen.” Some years before that Account was written, above 800 Roman coins were found in the Boroughmuir.*

“The Carmelites, or White Friars, had a convent at Linlithgow, which stood on the south side of the town. The eminence bears still the name of the Friars Brae, and the adjoining well bears a similar designation. The application of their revenues cannot now be traced. This establishment, in point of antiquity, was the third of the kind in Scotland. It was founded in 1290 by the inhabitants of Linlithgow, and consecrated to the Virgin Mary.

“There is said also to have been a monastery of Dominicans or Black Friars, here. Some remains of a religious house, probably this, may still be discerned in the east part of the town. There was also a chapel, sacred to St Ninian, at the West Port, though no traces of it now remain. There was another erection of a similar kind at East Binny, in the extremity of the parish; but no satisfactory account of it can now be had.

“St Magdalene’s, on the east of the town, was an *hospitium*, or place of entertainment for strangers. It had originally belonged to a set of Lazarites; but, on their extinction or secularization, it was applied to this purpose, according to the beneficial institution of James I. The eminence, at the bottom of which this hospital stood was designed Pilgrim-hill.” The Union Canal now passes over it.

There are two eminences on the west of the town, on one of which, Courts of justice are said to have been held in ancient times. The plain below had, probably from this circumstance, the name of Doomsdale given, which it still retains.

To the west of the town, near the bridge, is a field which was

* They had been deposited in an earthen urn, which the plough broke, and were picked up in lumps, by some persons who followed it to gather stones. The town, as superior, claimed the treasure. The pieces were not above the size of a sixpence, all silver, and having different dates and impressions. They were probably the collection of some virtuoso, and, being involved in rust, would furnish a sweet morsel to antiquaries. Some coins were also found lately in an old house of the town, when the workmen were digging for sand, about 500 in number,—of which 20 were gold, the rest silver. Many of them had impressions of the different James’s, and some of Henry IV. of England. Some of the gold coins were about the size of a guinea, others the half. These had their lustre unimpaired, but the silver pieces were overgrown with rust.

anciently used for military exercises and amusements. It has still the name of Joisting-haugh.

A stone tablet, of elegant sculpture, was, a good many years ago, found in digging a grave within the church. One compartment exhibits our Saviour praying, while the three select disciples are fast asleep. The other represents him saluted by Judas, and seized by the guard. He is at the same time healing the ear of Malchus, while Peter is putting his sword in the sheath. Though the stone be broken, the figures are not essentially injured.

The Palace is the most interesting relic of former days, in the parish. It is supposed that the site now occupied by the magnificent ruins of this abode of ancient royalty, was the site of a Roman station. Some have imagined that Linlithgow is the Roman Lindum. Be this as it may: it was very early selected by the Scottish princes, as one of their residences. It is supposed that there was a royal mansion at Linlithgow, as early as the reign of David I.,—who occasionally resorted here to enjoy the pleasure of the chase, and to consume the local royal revenues “payable in oxen, sheep, grain, and other descriptions of produce.” The present structure is of much more recent date. In 1424, the Palace was consumed by fire, and the oldest portion of the existing edifice is referred, by competent authorities, to the time of the first James. It received considerable additions during the reigns of James IV. and his successor; and the most modern part of it was built by James VI. on his visit to Scotland in 1617. It was the frequent residence of many of these princes, and was repeatedly, with its lake and park, assigned as a jointure house for the Queens of Scotland;—particularly, we may mention, Mary of Guise, who, when she saw it, declared that she never saw a more princely palace. The sincerity of the compliment was shown by her frequent residence. Nor need we wonder at the partiality of our monarchs for Linlithgow,—as a more delightful situation cannot be imagined. Situated upon an eminence projecting into the middle of the lake, which it divides into two nearly equal parts, the Palace commands several views of very pleasing scenery; and when the park was decorated with wood, of which some fine old trees still survive, the royal domain must fully have justified the eulogy of Sir Walter Scott. To enter into minute details of a building so well known, would be superfluous. It may suffice to state, that, as it now stands, the Palace is of a quadrangular form, having an open court within, on the north side, five stories in height, with a tower in each corner.

It measures 175 feet from north to south, and 165 feet from east to west. The appearance of the inner court is particularly imposing. Much attention has been paid to the architectural decoration of its various fronts, which exhibit some very pleasing effects. The centre is occupied by the remains of what has been a magnificent fountain, built of white freestone, of superior workmanship, the carvings being well cut, and highly relieved. The main entrance was formerly from the east, which is highly decorated. That, however, was closed, and the present one opened by James V. The same monarch built the fortified gateway, which leads into the outer court. This gateway is said to have been the model of the one at Abbotsford. The stranger, after contemplating the tame and ungainly aspect of the exterior of the Palace, is much impressed with the interior, which, with its remains of ancient grandeur, its ruined fountain, and grass-grown court, produces feelings of pleasing solemnity in the mind. The principal portions of the building which are shown to visitors, are the room where Mary was born, one of ample dimensions; the dining-room, long and narrow; the chapel; and the Parliament Hall, a noble apartment, measuring $98\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length, 30 feet in width, and to the summit of the walls, which still stand, 35 feet. The building abounds with places of concealment, and out-of-the-way corners. One of these is still shown as the place where James III. hid himself, during a rebellion of his nobles. This noble structure might have been entire to the present day, had it not been burned, it is not easy to say whether by accident or intention, in the year 1746, by the English dragoons under Hawley, who were quartered in the dining-room. There is a well-known story of the lady Mrs Glen Gordon, who acted as deputy-keeper of the Palace, remonstrating with Hawley upon the danger likely to result from the large fires his men were kindling; the General replied that he did not care though the Palace were burnt to the ground, upon which the indignant lady said, "Weel, weel, General, an' that be the case, I can rin awa frae *fire* as fast as you," alluding to the General's route at Falkirk. Much is now done by the Barons of Exchequer to preserve the venerable pile from further decay. The present keeper is Sir Thomas Livingstone of Westquarter.

III.—POPULATION.

There is an increase in the last census, to some extent more apparent than real: as, at the time it was taken, there was a considerable surplus population, owing to the operations on the Glas-

gow and Edinburgh Railway, and since the opening of the railway many workmen have removed to other districts.

There are no nobility, and but few individuals of independent fortune, residing in the parish. The people are in no respect remarkable for personal qualities. The language in common use is the ordinary dialect of the Lowlands.

The only custom which may be mentioned as peculiar to the parish is the annual procession of the magistrates, council, members of the various corporations, and others, termed the "Riding their Marches." They visit the village of Linlithgow Bridge and Blackness, of which the town is the superior; and at the place last named, a court is held by the provost. On the return of the procession to the town, the evening is passed in festivity. Though the custom might at one time have been necessary, it is now one which would "be more honoured in the breach, than in the observance."

IV.—INDUSTRY.

For the following account of the agriculture of the parish, I am under obligations to an intelligent agriculturist.

Agriculture. — The parish of Linlithgow contains in whole 11,960 imperial acres, all enclosed and judiciously subdivided. The whole may be said to be cultivated, as the planted ground, and a few acres upon hill tops inaccessible to the plough, form the alone exceptions. The system of culture is of the most approved description. On the free lands, the five-shift rotation is generally adopted; upon the clay lands, the six and seven-shifts are followed, but all conducted in the same style in which the counties of Berwickshire and East Lothian are farmed. The soil of the parish may be about equally divided between light and heavy. The low district is gravelly and loamy, the high division is stiff, thin, wet soil, lying upon a retentive subsoil.

Draining. — Thorough draining has done much towards the amelioration of the high grounds; but still there is much to do. The expense of this drainage falls almost wholly upon the tenants; with the exception of those of the Earl of Rosebery, Captain Stewart of Binny, and Mr Seton of Preston, no other proprietor takes any part in the expense.

Farms vary in size from 100 to 400 acres Scots; the average may be computed at 180 acres. Rents are payable partly in money, and partly in grain, for the most part, from one-half to one-fourth in cash, the remainder in grain or oatmeal, convertible

at the fair prices of the county. The average rent of the parish may be somewhere about L.2 or L.2, 2s. per Scots acre.

Farm-buildings are commodious, and suited to either rearing or feeding. Dwelling-houses are comfortable, and in general large enough to accommodate a large family. Several steadings are excellent, and one is now in the course of erection upon Champfleurie estate, which will be very superior.

Leases.—Leases are, in general, granted for nineteen years, and the conditions are of the usual style, viz. restrictive during the last four years of the endurance. One farm in the highest part of the parish let last year is under extreme restrictive conditions, by which the tenant is bound to improve. Time will show the result; but never yet was an improvement in agriculture discovered or effected by the specialties of an agreement.

Plantations.—The parish is well-wooded. Near the residence of the proprietors of the soil, some fine trees are to be seen, but large plantations have been lately made, which are now ornamental, and ultimately will be beneficial. The management of plantations is now much better understood than formerly, as to thinning, training, and drainage of the ground, as also the description of plants suited to the various soils.

Cattle.—There is no distinct breed of cattle peculiar to the district; the mongrel race of nondescripts are all but extinct, and in lieu of these, some fine beasts are now reared. In consequence of many large dairies being in the vicinity, the Ayrshire cow is the prevailing sort. There are also a good many short-horns. The cross between these may be said to constitute the breed reared in the parish; but the numbers reared form but a small proportion of the stock kept. From the nearness to the great markets held at Falkirk, the greater portion of animals fattened are bought at these trysts. Of sheep there are but few raised; but a great many more are fed than used to be, a few years since. There are a few flocks of Leicesters, but these are exceptions. Draught horses are almost entirely of the Clydesdale breed; and there are few counties in Scotland better horsed than Linlithgowshire.

Quarries and Mines.—Lime abounds in the parish. Silvermine, Hillhouse, and Carrubber works are now in full operation. Coal is also found in thin seams in the southern part of the parish, but none wrought just now. A vein of silver is understood to lie in the southern district of the parish, upon Lord Hopetoun's lands.

It was once wrought and lost sight of, and, after several attempts to hit upon it were unsuccessful, it has long been given up. Freestone and whinstone are more abundant. Two freestone quarries are now wrought,—Kingscavil, from which the palace of Linlithgow was built,—and East Binny, well known in modern public buildings in Edinburgh and elsewhere. This quarry is remarkable for the bitumen which is found in it, and which is sometimes melted and made into candles, which burn with a bright flame.

Manufactures.—This is not a manufacturing district; but there are several species of manufacture in the town and neighbourhood. The leather trade, in its various branches, may be called the staple of the town. It is said to have been introduced into the town by the soldiers of Cromwell. There are 24 master boot and shoe-makers, employing 276 journeymen, and 43 apprentices. The wages of the former are 10s. per week, and of the latter 3s. Thirty women are also employed as women's boot-binders, whose weekly wages average 4s. 6d. There are five master tanners, employing 28 men in this trade, the rate of wages is determined by the skill of the workmen. A tanner, bred to the employment, receives 13s. per week, while the average wages of what are called labouring tanners, that is, men not brought up to the work, are only 9s. The master curriers amount to nine, employing about 50 men, whose average rate of wages is 14s. per week. In the shoe trade, the hours are long—from six to six, and often later. In the currying branch of the trade, the men work only ten hours a-day. The tanning and currying departments are in a prosperous condition, and the shoe-makers are well employed. There was a temporary depression in the last-named trade some time back, but it has again revived.

There is a very extensive distillery in the town, which gives employment to a number of men. There is also a brewery.

In the vicinity, upon the river Avon, there is a paper-mill, and a large calico-printing establishment, both in full employment; the former produces a considerable quantity of paper, made by machinery, and the latter has been, even during the late melancholy depression of trade in other parts of the country, prosperous. The village of Linlithgow Bridge is almost entirely dependent upon the print field. Two glue-works are also in activity, and supply work to a portion of the population. A number of women, principally unmarried, are engaged in sewing for Glasgow manufacturing houses. This employment can scarcely be termed re-

munerative, for the utmost that a female can earn, working with the most untiring diligence from morning to night, is about 6d. per day—a most miserable pittance, when we consider the toil of the over-tasked female, who, however, but for this, scanty as it is, would be often entirely destitute. The employments of the operatives are generally healthful, and noway injurious to correct moral habits. A portion of the workmen are, as in every town, dissipated; but this arises from other causes than the nature of their occupation: others, again, are highly intelligent and religious, most favourable specimens of Scottish intellect and piety.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Town, &c.—Linlithgow, which is the county town, is the only one in the parish. It is a place of great antiquity. Its earliest existing charter, as a royal burgh, is dated in the reign of Robert II.; but, previous to that period, it undoubtedly enjoyed that rank, since, in the parliament of David II., held at Perth in 1348, it was statute and ordained, “that, so long as the burghs of Berwic and Roxburgh are detained and holden by English men, the burghs of Lanark and Lithcow shall be received and admitted in their place,” as constituent members of the court of the four burghs. In early times, when the residence of the Scottish monarchs, it was a place of considerable importance, trade, and opulence, and, though shorn of its former splendour, it has by no means sunk so low as many other towns once of consequence, but now lost sight of, in the increase of younger and more active communities. It extends about a mile along the high road between Edinburgh and Stirling, along the south bank of the lake already mentioned. The principal portion of the population is confined to this single street, which is of various width, expanding at the cross into a large open square, narrowing in other places to but a few feet, and widening at either end. The place has an antique air, many of the houses having that aspect of decayed grandeur, which testify to the power and opulence of their ancient owners. It is, however, gradually changing in its look of “venerable eld,” as modern buildings are usurping the place of these worn-out edifices. Several houses are still called Templar Tenements, having been the property of the preceptory of the Knights of St John at Torphichen. The superiority of these tenements has now, with one exception, been acquired by the town-council. Mention has been made of the trade of the town and its principal antiquities, under

previous heads. It is governed by a council, consisting of twenty-seven members, including provost, four bailies, dean-of-guild, and treasurer. There is no local police, the public peace being sufficiently preserved, in ordinary circumstances, by the town-officers. Formerly the council appear to have exercised an authority which would now be deemed despotic. In their minutes, various acts, for example, occur in relation to the observance of the Sabbath. One of these is as late as the year 1711, which enforces church attendance, shutting of the shops of brewsters and tapsters under a penalty, and forbids walking on that day in the yards and yard-heads under penalty of a fine,—holding parents answerable for their children, and masters for their servants and apprentices; and in the following year, the council, for the preservation of the peace of the town, order a guard of fifteen burgesses to keep watch and ward nightly, from ten o'clock till five o'clock in the morning. If any should be absent when regularly called in his turn, his house to be poinded next day for payment of a fine of L.12 Scots. At an earlier period, a similar act, calling upon the burgesses to march, on some public occasion, is enforced under pain of death. The town is amply supplied with the finest waters, brought from springs in the high grounds to the south of the town, and distributed throughout the various public wells. One of these in particular deserves notice,—the cross well, rebuilt in 1816 by a one-handed mason, in exact imitation of a previous structure which had gone to decay. It is of a hexagonal figure, adorned with a variety of sculptural and grotesque figures, said to have been originally designed in ridicule of the *irregular* habits of the *regular* Romish clergy. It has thirteen very beautiful *jets d'eau*, and the whole is crowned by a lion rampant, supporting the royal arms of Scotland. The town is also lighted with gas. The revenue of the town amounts to about L.700, arising chiefly from property, the borough mills, and the town and bridge-customs. Alexander II. had bestowed the mills of Linlithgow, with all their pertinents, on the priory of Manuel, of which the remains are still to be seen on the opposite side of the river. These, in 1586, were granted to the town by Lady Jane Livingston, prioress of that convent, on condition of their paying annually 20 merks Scotch. That grant was renewed after the Reformation by James VI., and other privileges conferred, by a charter of novodamus in 1592. The bridge-custom was exacted in terms of ancient charters, giving the town right of custom from Avon Bridge to the sea. A claim has been made on

the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway for payment of the ordinary dues on goods carried by the Company across the Avon and through the burgh ; and though the claim has been resisted, the council are prosecuting it with a reasonable prospect of success. Should it be successful, it will add immensely to the revenue, placing very ample funds at the disposal of the council for burgh purposes. At one time, the town had an exclusive right of trade from the water of Cramond to the mouth of the Avon ; and when North Queensferry was created a royal burgh, the design was resisted by Linlithgow, on the ground of its infringing the privileges of the latter. The matter, however, was compromised by the Ferry, among other articles, paying ten merks Scotch annually, which sum is still exacted. Linlithgow ranks as the sixth in order of the Scottish burghs. By act of Parliament, it had the charge of the standard firloft measure ; but since the introduction of the imperial measures, the Linlithgow firloft is only a matter of antiquarian curiosity. The town house was built in 1668, and contains the jail, Sheriff-Court-house, and town-hall. The county buildings in the rear of the town-house are plain in their exterior. The hall is a fine apartment, adorned with fine portraits of John Earl of Hopetoun by Raeburn, and of Sir Alexander Hope by Watson Gordon. The town enjoys the benefit of a branch of the Commercial Bank.

Means of Communication.—There is one post-office in the parish, that of Linlithgow. The district enjoys the advantage of excellent roads. There are, in the parish, about seven miles of turnpike road, under the management of two separate trusts. These roads are in good order, and the funds of the trusts are in a better state than most, having but a small amount of debt. The parish roads extend to about thirty miles, and are in a good state of repair. They have been sixteen years under the management of one individual. The Union Canal and the Edinburgh and Glasgow Railway both pass through the parish. There is a railway station at Linlithgow, where all the regular trains call, and from which omnibuses run to Bathgate and Bo'ness.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church, which, being situated in the town, is near the mass of the population, is a very fine building, of great antiquity, and one of the most perfect existing specimens of the early ecclesiastical architecture of Scotland. It is supposed to have been founded by David I., that “sair saunt for the crown.”

By recent measurement, its length is 187 feet, and its breadth, including the aisles, 105 feet. From the centre of the west front there rises a square tower, which was formerly surmounted by an imperial crown. This, however, was removed a number of years ago, from an apprehension that it was too weighty for the tower. At the time of its removal, it was proposed to replace it by a similar crown made of iron. This, however, has never been effected. Some of the windows are very beautiful, and, previous to the Reformation, the exterior was decorated with statues, of which only one now remains, that of St Michael, the old patron saint of the burgh. The church, with its pertinents, was assigned by David I. to the prior and canons of St Andrews. It was afterwards served by perpetual vicars, several of whom attained high rank in the church. Formerly, the west end was used as the place of worship. In 1812, the east end was fitted up as a church at a cost of nearly L. 4000, and now forms a very elegant church, seated for 1100 persons. The charge was once collegiate, but has been long single. In some accounts, mention is made of an abrogated parish, that of Binny, having been, at the Reformation, united to the parish of Linlithgow. Some, however, doubt whether Binny was ever a distinct parish, and conceive that the chapel there was subsidiary to the church of Linlithgow. There is now an excellent manse built, since the last Statistical Account was written. The glebe is valued at about L. 11 per annum, and the stipend averages somewhere about L. 300. There are two congregations connected with the United Secession Church in the parish, one place of worship containing about 600 sittings and the other nearly 500. The former was rebuilt, not many years ago, at an expense of L. 1150. There is also a congregational chapel lately rebuilt, at an expense of L. 700, and containing about 350 sittings. More recently, a congregation has been formed in connection with the Free Protestant Church. They have it in contemplation to erect a place of worship; their number cannot be correctly stated, but it is believed that it is on the increase. When the Church Commission was here, it was computed by the Established minister, that there were 1300 Dissenters in the parish, and by one of the Secession ministers, that there were 1526,—all the rest being churchmen. Since then, their relative numbers have not changed, with the exception of the recent secession from the Establishment, the extent of which, as already mentioned, cannot be distinctly stated.

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The members of all the religious bodies contribute to the support of the religious and benevolent objects of the respective denominations; in some cases liberally. There were various religious Institutions in the town, but for some time past they have been in abeyance. It is hoped, that they will soon revive into more than former activity.

Education.—There are nine schools in the parish. Of these one is the burgh school, under the patronage of the town-council, and the rector of which receives a salary of L.30 per annum; another is a charity school for girls, founded by Mrs Douglas, sister of the late Dr Dobie, minister of the parish; the rest are private unendowed schools. The burgh school had formerly two teachers; but since the election of the present rector, there has been no assistant. In former times, it would appear from some old minutes of council that there had been a music school, under the patronage of the council, though no information can now be given regarding it. In 1834, there were 547 children attending all the schools in the parish, and since then the number has not decreased.

Literature.—Dr Henry the historian left his valuable library to the parish. For a series of years, it continued to prosper, but for a considerable period, it has been completely neglected, the books being left to decay on the shelves, without one single reader. It is difficult to say what is the reason of this singular fate of a bequest which, in most circumstances, would have fared very differently. The cause commonly assigned is the terms of the bequest. The presbytery and town-council were to enjoy the benefit of the library upon paying 5s. per annum, the members of the former body having the first reading of all new works. Other readers were to pay 10s. annually, and to wait for the new productions often till they had become old. Such a constitution could scarcely be expected to insure prosperity. Various efforts have been made to revive the library; but, until some alteration is effected in the terms of admission, it is to be feared they will be all hopeless.

There is a subscription library at Linlithgow Bridge, and one in connection with the First United Secession Church, which, upon payment of a small annual sum, is open to all who choose to read.

There is a news-room in the town, and a society for the purchase

and perusal of periodicals. A small monthly sheet, entitled Dick's Advertiser, is published in Linlithgow, and circulated throughout the county, and the eastern district of Stirlingshire.

Charitable Institutions.—There are nine Friendly Societies in Linlithgow, the Masons', Dyers', Gardeners', Crispins', Tanners', Trades' Friendly, Odd Fellows, and Rechabites. The main object of these Societies is, for the purpose of alimending sick and decayed members. Their funds are raised by monthly and quarterly subscriptions of the members. The rate of aliment differs. One of them, the Dyers, in addition to the aliment they give, allows a small sum annually for educating the children of deceased members between six and twelve years of age. They also give a sum in the shape of funeral expenses at the death of a member or a member's wife. The Rechabite Society is founded upon the principle of total abstinence, a member forfeiting all claim to its benefits, should he violate the pledge. Several of these Societies have accumulated money and property to a considerable extent, and all of them are prosperous. Their term of existence is various. Some are of long standing, others are very recent. Several of them have existed as Societies, long prior to their becoming Friendly,—as, for example, the Society of Gardeners has existed for several centuries, the person who founded it having been Gardener to the palace in its days of splendour, and the individual by whom the fine old trees which still beautify its eastern front, were planted. As Friendly Societies, the oldest is that of the Dyers, which has existed for eighty years; then the Gardeners, which has existed for sixty years; the Tanners, also sixty; the Crispins, nineteen; the Masons, thirty-two; the Rechabites, two years; and the Odd Fellows, a branch of the Manchester Union, only a few months.

The Incorporated Trades who have funds, give a small annual allowance to decayed members. These allowances are more charitable, than granted as a matter of right.

Poor.—There are at present about 140 persons on the poor's roll; the number having very considerably increased within the last two years. The monthly distribution is about L. 24. The rate per month varies according to the circumstances of the person, from 2s. to 15s. The rent of land belonging to the session, together with the collections at the church doors, and other dues, has, till within these last two years, been sufficient for all expenses.

Prison.—The state of the prison here has been materially im-

proved within these last few years, under the inspection of the Prison Board. The number of prisoners confined during last year, was 125. This, however, includes the county, and affords no criterion by which to judge of the amount of crime in the parish. The prison is well secured, and every attention paid to the health and even comforts of the prisoners; each cell is heated with a stove and lighted with gas, regularly cleaned, and as well ventilated as the situation of the prison will admit. Each prisoner, when brought in, is washed and clothed in a prison dress. The diet is excellent, consisting of six ounce of oatmeal made into porridge, for breakfast, with three-fourths of a pint of buttermilk. Dinner, ox-head broth, four ounce barley, four ounce bread, and a proportion of vegetables, each alternate day, pease-brose, fish, and potatoes. Supper the same as breakfast. Provision is also made for the religious instruction of the prisoners; in addition to the services of a chaplain, each cell is provided with a Testament. Mr Alison the governor instructs the male-prisoners, who cannot read or write; and his wife, the female prisoners. Many of them appear to value the instruction they receive, and some of them make considerable progress. A new jail is to be immediately erected, in which greater facilities will exist for the exercise of the improved prison discipline.

Fairs.—There is a weekly market, and six annual fairs in Linlithgow.

Inns.—There are two inns in the town, one adjoining the Railway station, of a superior class. There are a number of public-houses. It would be well for the town, were they much reduced in number; for many of them only serve to administer to the cravings of intemperance.

Fuel.—The only fuel used is coal, which is procured from the Duke of Hamilton's and other coal pits to the west, and from Borrowstownness.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the last Statistical Account was written, considerable changes have taken place in the parish. Several branches of trade then prosecuted in the town are now extinct, such as the trade in wool, then a staple commodity, carpet-weaving, and tambouring in factories. But though various branches of trade have become extinct, there is no reason to imagine that any great decline has taken place in the prosperity of the town; population has increased, and

the general comforts of the inhabitants augmented. In agriculture, the change has been great. But though agriculture be as far advanced as in any district, and little remains to be desired in the matter of improved communication,—much may yet be done to promote the happiness and comforts of the people.

July 1843,

COUNTY OF LINLITHGOW.

THIS County is bounded on the north by the Firth of Forth ; on the east and south-east, by the county of Mid-Lothian ; on the south-west, by that of Lanark ; and on the west, by that of Stirling. It is situate between 55.49 and 56.1 north latitude ; and 3.18 and 3.51 west longitude. It is computed to contain about 112 square miles, or 71,680 acres ; whereof 50,000 are cultivated, 10,000 uncultivated, and 11,680 unprofitable.

The valued rent in 1649 was L. 75,027, 12s. 2d. Scots. The annual value of real property, as assessed in 1815, was L. 97,597. Population in 1841, 26,848 ; number of inhabited houses, 5309. The Parliamentary constituency in 1842 was 650.

TABLE I.

Showing the total number of persons in the county of Linlithgow committed for trial or bailed in the year 1841 :—

Offences against the person,	40
property, with violence,	2
without violence,	41
Forgery and offences against the currency,	4
Other offences,	14
	<hr/> 101

TABLE II.—Showing Ecclesiastical State, &c. of Parishes in the County of Linlithgow.

Parishes.	Population in 1841.	Ecclesiastical State.					Parochial Schoolmasters' Emoluments.		Annual Amount of Contributions to the Poor.				
		Parishes belonging to Church.	Individuals Do.	Farms, Dispersed, or Episcop.	Individuals Do.	Amount of Parochial Minister's stipend.	Schools in Par.	Salary.	Total.	From assessment or voluntary contrib. by Heritors.	From Church collections.	From Alms, Legacies, &c.	Total.
Queensferry,	721	111	449	40	214	L.150	8	L.34 4 4	...	...	L.35 0 0	Interest of L.5000, &c. L.17 18 6	...
Abercorn,	2147	192	949	13	49	240	2	34 4 4	L.64 4 4	...	62 10 6	L.17 18 6	L.80 9 0
Torphichen,	1417	...	...	...	...	150	3	34 4 4	...	L.25 0 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	85 0 0
Camden,	1197	259	1104	28	...	128 bolls, &c. See text.	4	34 4 4	...	36 0 0	...	...	...
Whitburn,	2596	...	...	...	...	16 Chalders.	5	34 4 4	54 4 4	...	...	...	...
Upshall,	1467	...	...	...	...	...	2	34 4 4	70 4 4	30 0 0	16 0 0	L.40 0 0	...
Dalmeny,	1368	...	...	...	...	17 Do.	1	34 4 4	...	20 0 0	25 0 0	Interest of L.5000, &c. L.2 12 0	...
Ecclesmachan,	308	...	...	...	...	L.146, &c.	...	34 4 4	...	...	11 0 0	...	...
Livingstone,	1004	...	636	...	389	188, &c.	2	34 4 4	...	...	...	...	...
Borrowstonness,	2847	...	...	...	...	...	10	34 4 4	74 4 4	109 0 0	62 0 0	...	254 0 0
Bathgate,	3927	...	2165	...	1134	...	5	34 4 4	60 4 4	217 7 84	39 19 64	61 1 0	319 8 8
Linlithgow,	5925	9

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3° Longitude West from Greenwich



By control to H. H. Moore

PARISH OF HADDINGTON.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ROBERT LORIMER, LL. D. } MINISTERS.
THE REV. JOHN COOK, }

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—HADDINGTON, the county town of Haddingtonshire, or East Lothian, lies in $55^{\circ} 57'$ north latitude, 17 miles east from Edinburgh, on the great post road to London. The name, though apparently of Saxon origin, is of uncertain etymology.

Extent, Boundaries.—The parish is $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length; 6 in breadth; and contains $22\frac{1}{2}$ miles square, or about 12,000 acres Scots. It was formerly of much greater extent; but in 1674 part of it was annexed to the smaller parish of Athelstaneford; and in 1692 a considerable portion, including several baronies on the west, was taken off to make up the new parish of Gladsmuir. On the north it is bounded by part of the lands of Gladsmuir, Aberlady, and Athelstaneford; on the east by Prestonkirk and Morham; on the south by Yester and Bolton; and on the west by Gladsmuir. The parish has chiefly a northern exposure, the land gradually rising from the vale of Peffer, near the sea, to the height of Brown's Hill, which looks down upon the village of Gifford.

Topographical Appearances.—The appearance of the parish is beautifully diversified by a waving irregularity of surface, thriving plantations, well enclosed and richly cultivated fields, extensive parks of verdant pasture, and elegant seats of the nobility and gentry. Besides trees disposed for ornament around the seats of the nobility and gentry, there are plantations of some extent on the grounds of Amisfield, running up in broad regular belts to the Garleton Hills; on the south of Stevenson; on the higher grounds of Coalston; and on the lands of Sir Thomas Hepburn, Bart. towards Gladsmuir. On some parts of Coalston are copse woods, composed of dwarf or Scotch oak, the hazel, the birch, and other indigenous trees, which seem to be a remnant of

that species of copse which, it is said, in early times covered the greater part of the south of Scotland. Coalston wood is mentioned in some of the ancient deeds of the family so far back as the thirteenth century.

The climate is very salubrious, remarkably free from endemic disease, or visitation of contagious fever. It is still, however, in the recollection of aged people, that in their early days, some were laid aside from work every spring, with ague: but now, the soil being so well drained, this disease is rarely if ever heard of in the district. There are at present upwards of 150 persons above seventy years of age, a considerable number beyond eighty, and several above ninety. As an instance of extraordinary longevity in one family, it seems worthy of record, that Alexander Maitland, and Catherine Cunningham, were married 6th August 1657. The ages of nine of the children of this marriage amounted to no less than 738 years. Another thing remarkable of this marriage is, that the eighteenth year of it produced trines, and the twenty-first twins. The ages of the trines amounted to 256.

Hydrography.—The Tyne is the only river in the parish. Its source may be traced into the parish of Crichton, about twelve miles westward. After receiving the tributary streams of Salton and Coalston, it passes through Haddington, dividing the burgh from the suburb of Nungate, and proceeding nine miles eastward, falls into the sea below Tynninghame, about a mile to the westward of Dunbar. Though generally of moderate breadth and depth (averaging ten or twelve yards in breadth, two feet in depth, and flowing, when unimpeded by embankments, somewhat less than two miles an hour,) yet being as a trough to a large extent of sloping surface, particularly the Lammermoor range of mountain on the south, it sometimes suddenly swells, and overflowing its banks occasions considerable damage. There are four stone bridges over it in the parish.

It is stated by the Rev. Dr Barclay in a former account of the parish of Haddington, (Transactions of Antiquaries of Scotland, Vol. i. page 46,) on the authority of Fordun, lib. xiv. c. 21, “ That on Christmas eve 1358, there happened a most extraordinary inundation. The rivers swollen by excessive rains, rose above their banks and swept away many villages, houses, and bridges, and many persons lost their lives whilst endeavouring to save their property,—not only cattle but tall oaks and other large trees were torn up by the roots and carried off to the sea. Sheaves of corn were

carried off the adjacent fields, from whence it appears that the harvest that year must have been remarkably late. As it approached the Abbey of Haddington, a nun snatched up the statue of the Virgin, and threatened to throw it into the water, unless Mary protected her Abbey from inundation. At that moment the river retired," says Bowmaker, (the continuator of Fordun,) "and gradually subsided within its limits." On consulting, however, Goodall's edition of Fordun's *Scotichronicon* the words are "In vigilia nativitatis *nostræ Dominæ*," (not *nostrî Domini*, as some must have read or imagined,) that is, the 7th of September, the nativity of the Virgin Mary being the 8th of that month. In Hearne's edition of Fordun, Vol. iv. p. 1053, the words are, "In vigilia nativitatis *beatæ virginis*." The harvest that year, therefore, was not late. It is probable that Dr Barclay proceeded on the high authority of Lord Hailes, who mentions it in his *Annals* among the miscellaneous and memorable occurrences of that year.

It appears by our MSS. histories, that upon the festival of St Ninian, 1421, the waters, by constant rains, swelled to such a height, that there were a great many houses entirely defaced in the town, and the people went into the church in a boat, so that the Sacristy, with their fine library and ornaments for divine service, were greatly damaged, (Spottiswood's *Account of Religious Houses in Scotland*, p. 274.) A similar flood happened on the 4th October 1775, which was 350 years after. The Tyne then rose seventeen feet above its level in less than an hour, and inundated more than half the town in its vicinity. This sudden swell is supposed to have been owing to the bursting of a water-spout to the southward above Gifford, as there was not much rain to the north or in the neighbourhood. As this happened during the day, mercifully no lives were lost.

Geology.—There are few sections, natural or artificial, in the parish, from which one can ascertain the disposition and direction of the strata. The rock of which the Garleton range of hill is composed appears to be a secondary trap, approaching to what is called clinkstone, contemporaneous with North Berwick Law and Traprain, the two principal heights in the neighbourhood. Heavy spar is found near the west end of the hills. In the lower grounds is sandstone of different colour and quality. The alluvial matter in the bed of the river is the debris of secondary trap, with nodules of quartz.

There are no mines in the parish. It appears from the ancient

records of the burgh, that attempts have been made at different times for 300 years back, to obtain coal from lands belonging to the town on the borders of Gladsmuir. In 1823, the attempt was renewed, and L. 1800 at least expended on the trial, but without success. The thinness of the coal seam did not repay the work and remunerate the proprietors.

The only mineral spring in the parish is a weak chalybeate at Dobson's well, about half a mile west of the town of Haddington.

The soil of the parish is various. In some places, towards Gladsmuir, it is thin and of inferior quality: but in general it is good, and in a high state of cultivation.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—Haddington, as appears from the *Civita quatuor Burgorum*, is a town of great antiquity; but when it was erected into a royal burgh is uncertain—its ancient records having been destroyed by the inroads of the English, who several times burnt the town and laid it waste. There is a charter * amongst the public records, from James V., dated 1542; but the most ancient charter in the records of the burgh is one from James VI., dated 13th January 1624, confirming all their ancient rights and privileges. Haddington is the tenth in the order of precedence among the royal burghs, and pays L. 1, 16s. in every L. 100 of their assessments.

There are only two villages in the parish, and both inconsiderable. Of the one, St Lawrence House, about a mile to the westward of the town of Haddington, there is neither record nor tradition of any importance; the other is the Abbey, somewhat more than a mile to the eastward. Here in 1178, Countess Ada of Northumberland, mother of Malcolm IV. and William the Lion, Kings of Scotland, founded and richly endowed a convent or priory of Cistercian nuns, which was dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and here on the 7th July 1548, the Parliament of Scotland was convened, and their consent obtained to the marriage of the young Queen Mary with the Dauphin, and her education at the court of France.

Haddington was the first place in Scotland visited by cholera asphyxia in 1831. This pestilential disease, originating in the jungles of Hindostan about the year 1817, and progressing westward, after spreading death and destruction over a vast extent of territory, reached the eastern coast of Britain in summer or autumn

* It is noticed as a demesne town of the Scottish King in the twelfth century.

1831. From Sunderland and Newcastle, its next step was to Haddington, passing over the intermediate country and populous towns of Berwick and Dunbar. As soon as its arrival was ascertained, a board of health was formed, and the most prompt measures were used for cleansing the streets and alleys of the town; white-washing and fumigating infected or suspected houses, liberally distributing flannel clothing to the poorer classes, and amply supplying them daily with nourishing food from a soup-kitchen. A commodious hospital was found and fitted up to receive patients, and the medical faculty were in constant attendance. The number of cases in all was 125, of which were, 50 men, 66 women, 1 boy, and 8 girls. Of these 57 died, (two or three of the cases happened to be passing strangers who brought the disease with them.) It chiefly attacked the intemperate and dissipated in the humbler ranks, though others of better condition and habits, but of feeble constitution, fell victims to its violence. It reached Haddington on 17th December 1831, and entirely left the place on 22d February following. In one night there were 8 deaths. The expenses incurred during these two months amounted to about L. 400, of which L. 150 were contributed from the county subscription fund, L. 112 by collections at the church doors, and the remainder by voluntary subscription.

Seats of the Nobility and Gentry.—The landward part of the parish is studded and embellished with the family seats or mansions of the nobility and gentry;—Amisfield, on the south bank of Tyne, belonging to the Earl of Wemyss and March; Stevenson, about half a-mile to the eastward, the seat of Sir John Gordon Sinclair, Bart.; Lennoxlove, anciently Lethington, about a mile to the south of Haddington, the seat of Lord Blantyre.* Part of this latter mansion is very ancient, having been built by the Giffords. The square tower, it is believed, is not surpassed in strength and height by any fortalice in Scotland. Lethington was long the chief residence of the Lauderdale family. Sir Richard Maitland, and Secretary Maitland lived here, and John Duke of Lauderdale was born, and spent most of his days in same place.† A little to the

* The change of name was made by Alexander Lord Blantyre in honour of, and gratitude to his relation and munificent benefactress, Frances Duchess of Lennox and Richmond, who, by a large bequest, enabled him to purchase it. She was a lady of great beauty and accomplishments, and so passionately admired by Charles II. that he sought to honour her by having her person represented on the coinage under the emblematic figure of *Britannia*.

† The first park wall, enclosing an extent of surface somewhat more than a mile square, was built by the Duke of Lauderdale (in the space, it is said, of six weeks,) in consequence of a sarcastic remark of the Duke of York—intimating that, before

east is Monkrigg, the elegant new mansion of the Honourable Captain Keith, R. N. . To the south, again, and within view of Lennox-love is Coalston, the seat of the family of Brown, the most ancient family in the parish, now possessed by its amiable and excellent representative, the Countess of Dalhousie. On the north of the Tyne, and west of the town of Haddington, are the estates and Houses of Clerkington, belonging to Colonel Robert Houston: Letham, the property of Sir Thomas Hepburn, Bart. ; Alderston, that of Robert Stewart, Esq. M. P. ; and Huntington, of William Ainslie, Esq.

Eminent Men.—It appears that Haddington was at one time a royal residence, and that Alexander II. was born there in the year 1198. But it is much more distinguished as the birth-place of the illustrious Scotch Reformer, John Knox. He was born in the Gifford-gait, adjoining to the town, in 1505, and afterwards educated at the grammar-school of the burgh. Some writers, misled probably by the name of the Gifford-gait, or way that leads to Gifford, have said, “that he was born at Gifford, near Haddington.” But, in the first place, immemorial, unopposed, unchallenged tradition has fixed this suburb of Haddington on the old Gifford road, as the place of his nativity, and the site of the house is still shown; and next, though Gifford, as a *barony*, has existed and been known by that appellation since Hugh de Gifford settled in East Lothian under David I., and received from William the Lion the manor of Yester; yet there is reason to believe that Gifford, as a *village*, did not exist in the time of the Reformer, nor for more than a century afterwards. Indeed the present village of Gifford is comparatively of modern origin; owing its rise and locality chiefly to the removal of the ancient church of Bothans from the vicinity of the mansion house of Yester to its present site, about the beginning of the eighteenth century. Previous to this period, tradition speaks only of a single house there, *Gifford-ha'*, which, in the colloquial parlance of the country, is still applied to designate the village.*

his first visit to this part of the island, he heard there was not so much as a park in Scotland. The wall was twelve feet in height, but many years ago, was reduced to seven. At this place the excellent species of apples called Lethingtons were first cultivated, having been brought from France about the middle of the sixteenth century.

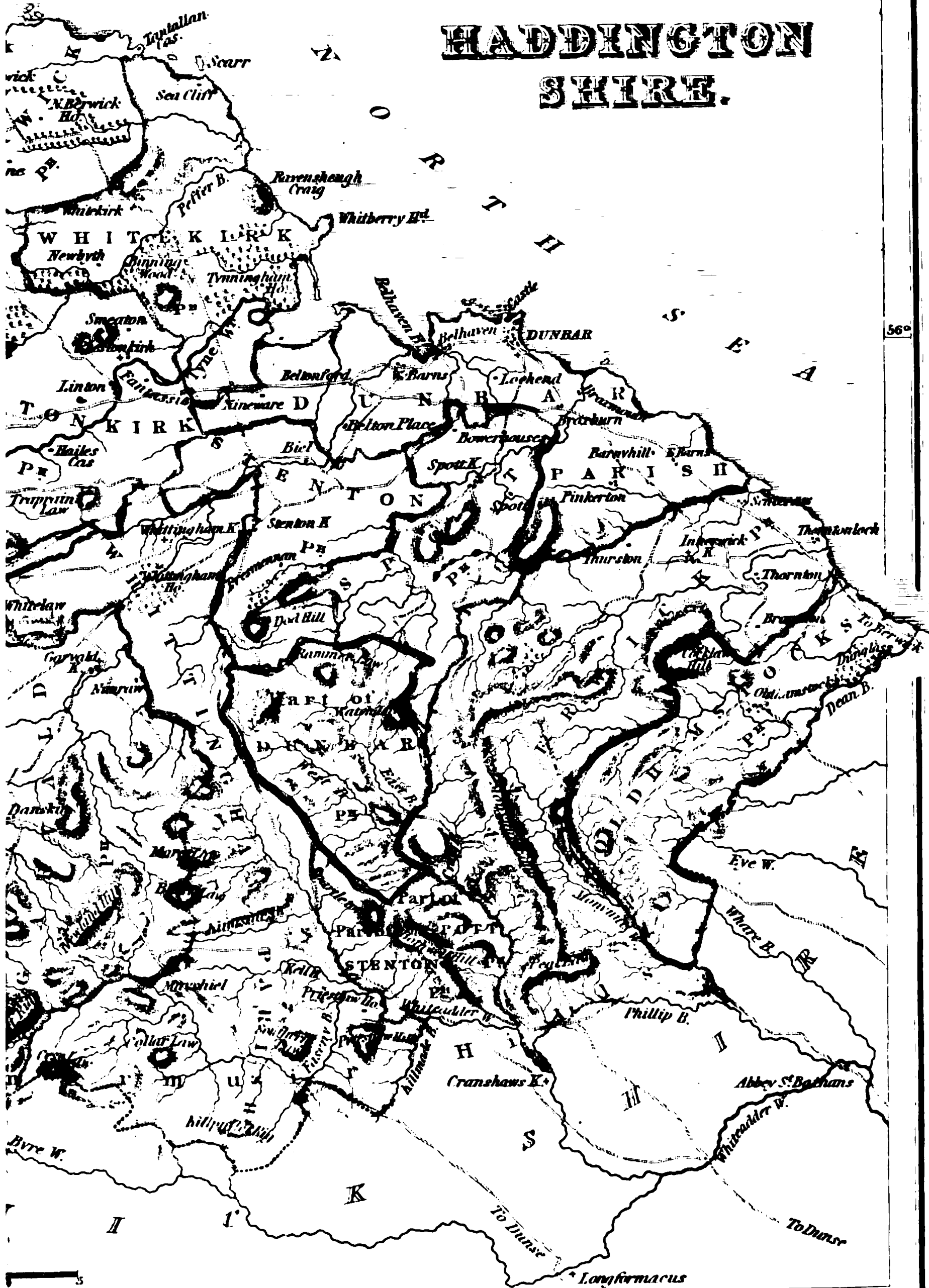
* The following extracts from the records of the town-council of Haddington, which extend as far back as 6th March 1424, are illustrative of the antiquities of the burgh and of those olden times as to *education*. “October 6, 1559. The council thought it expedient to fee Mr Robert Dormont to be skoillmaister of the burgh, with 24 merks in the year, payable off the common gude; and allowed for ‘ilk town bairn’ 12d. termly of school-house fee, and 4d. termly from the parents or friends of the bairn as use and wont was. The council to find Mr Dormont ‘ane chalmer and skoill-house maill fre.’” In February 1563, is a contract between the town and Thomas Cumyn

Leith

Base

HADDINGTON SHIRE.

56°



tury by the purchase of Lethington, which was afterwards their chief residence. Sir Richard Maitland of Lethington, born in 1496 and died 1586, aged 90 years, was a man of distinguished merit and abilities. He was many years a Lord of Session and Lord Privy-Seal. Two small volumes of his poems have been published by Mr Pinkerton. The eldest son, William, was secretary of state during the reign of Mary Queen of Scots. The character and fate of this accomplished statesman are well known. All his brothers were men of uncommon merit and talents, and, like himself, reflect a lustre on the place of their nativity. John, the secretary's next brother, rose to the highest offices and honours in the state, being advanced to the dignity of Lord High Chancellor of Scotland, which he held till his death, 3d October 1595. In 1590, he was created Lord Maitland of Thirlestane.* Thomas, the youngest brother of the Secretary and Chancellor, was highly accomplished as a scholar and gentleman. He is one of the Colloquutors in Buchanan's celebrated dialogue, "De jure regni apud Scotos." Some of his Latin poems published by Scotstarvet are extremely elegant. John Earl of Lauderdale, son and heir of the Chancellor, was a nobleman of the greatest worth.†

liament, and allowed 6s. 8d. per day for his expenses. The allowance (5th July 1681) to Provost Cockburn and his man for each days' attendance in Parliament was L. 5 Scots.

On 24th September 1698, the large sum of L. 236, 2s. Scots was voted as commission fees to the Parliament in July, August, and September last, so that the practice of paying members continued till the period of the Union.

Before the Revolution every parent was obliged, under a penalty, to have his child baptized by the Established clergyman, and registered. At present few Dissenters register the names of their children.

It appears from the records of the town-council, that the *pest*, after making fearful ravages in Edinburgh, travelled eastward; for it is stated (20th September 1590,) that the weekly market was suspended, and all travel to or from Edinburgh, Leith, or other suspected places was interdicted by the magistrates, under severe pains and penalties.

In 1244, the town, composed chiefly of wooden buildings, according to the custom of the times, was totally consumed by fire. That this happened not by accident, but by wilful design, seems evident, as in the same night Stirling, Roxburgh, Lanark, Perth, Forfar, Montrose, and Aberdeen shared the same fate. In 1598, almost the whole town was again consumed by fire, owing, it is said, to the carelessness of a maid-servant. Ever since this calamity, a curfew goes through the town at eight o'clock at night during the winter months, when, after tolling a bell, a crier repeats a few rude rhymes, alluding to the misfortune, and warning the inhabitants to greater caution in future. This is called "coal and can'le."

* There is a most superb and costly monument of the chancellor and his lady in the aisle of the church of Haddington, belonging to the Lauderdale family, 24 feet in length, 18 feet in width, and 18 feet high. There are two compartments supported by three black marble pillars, 5 feet high each, with capitals of white alabaster of the Corinthian order, arched above. In the western compartment are figures of Lord Thirlestane and his lady at full length, in white alabaster, close to each other, in a recumbent posture.

† In the east compartment of the marble monument referred to in the aisle of the church of Haddington, are figures of the Earl and his Countess, similar to those of

III.—POPULATION.

By census 1801 the population of the parish amounted to	-	-	4049
1810,	-	-	4370
1821,	-	-	5255
1831,	-	-	5383
Residing in the town and Nungate,	-	-	3751
in villages,	-	-	106
in the country,	-	-	2026
<hr/>			
Persons under 15 years of age,	-	-	2351 or $\frac{2}{3}$
between 15 and 30,	-	-	1506 or $\frac{1}{4}$
30 and 50,	-	-	1202 or $\frac{1}{3}$
50 and 70,	-	-	673 or $\frac{1}{9}$
upwards of 70,	-	-	151 or $\frac{1}{40}$
deaf and dumb,	-	-	2
blind,	-	-	2
lunatic,	-	-	1
fatuous and imbecile,	-	-	3
Number of families in the parish,	-	-	1045*
Average number of marriages in the five years preceding 1833,	-	-	41
of births during the same period,	-	-	96 $\frac{1}{2}$
of deaths for the last seven years,	-	-	87
Proportion of males and females in 1830, 43 sons, and 43 daughters.			

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—

The number of imperial acres cultivated,	-	-	9312
never in cultivation,	-	-	250
capable of being cultivated with a profitable application of capital,	-	-	357
under wood,	-	-	1250
in undivided common,	-	-	0

Husbandry.—The farms are considerable in size, and the rent is generally paid in grain, at the medium or second fiars of the county. Since the former Statistical Account was drawn up, various and important improvements have taken place in the husbandry of the parish, in a more complete drainage of the soil, the rotation of crops, the culture given to the land, the introduction of new species of manure, and of farm implements. *Drainage* is now both better understood and more extensively practised than at the period referred to. Drains formerly were not made of such depth as to render them efficient. Now they are executed with that attention to the nature of the soil which renders them permanently subservient to its amelioration. The rotation of crops was then generally of a scourging nature, as it is called, being for the most part a succession of culmiferous grains, without a due mixture of the leguminous. The land, therefore, was then much less pro-

the Chancellor and his lady. The famous John Duke of Lauderdale, eldest son and heir of the Earl, was born at Lethington, 26th May 1616. The leaden coffin which contains his body, and a vase enclosing his bowels, are deposited in a vault in the aisle of the church of Haddington.

* Stated in the abstract of returns to Government, 1831, at 1308.

ductive than it is now, when the succulent plants are more extensively cultivated, and pasturage more frequently introduced; for besides its renovating influence on the productiveness of the earth, the farmer is thus enabled to carry on the operations of his farm at less expense, while it is believed an equal, if not a greater quantity of corn is produced than when nearly the whole farm is kept in tillage. New *manures* have also been recently introduced, as rape and bone dust, to render the soil more prolific. The former has been successfully applied to clay soils, and the latter to those of a light description.

The implements of husbandry have likewise been progressively improved, and a greater variety introduced into farm management.

Tenantry.—Though the tenantry are remarkable for their intelligence and cultivation—their superior domestic accommodation—and style of living, it may safely be affirmed that in no profession has so little profit of late years been realized from an equal outlay of capital, as in that of the agriculturist, chiefly owing to the high rent of land. Though no expensive course of education be required in order to attain sufficient skill to conduct the diversified operations of the farm, yet the capital necessary to an advantageous outset has doubled if not tripled within the last forty years. And then the prices of corn during the late continental war, having risen to an exorbitant height, farmers felt encouraged to offer a higher rent than the decreased price of corn produce has since enabled them to pay, without trenching on their capital. Several landed proprietors, however, convinced of the necessity of a reduction, have made considerable abatements of rent, and others have consented to an interchange of the terms and conditions of the lease; substituting a corn rent, regulated by the medium fiars of the county, instead of the stipulated sum of money formerly paid.

Farm-Servants.—The parish of Haddington being agricultural, farm-servants constitute a considerable proportion of the population. Being commonly paid in farm produce, and allowed to keep a cow, they are generally considered to be in a more comfortable and thriving condition than any other description of labourers or even than common tradesmen whose wages are paid in money. Farm-servants are mostly married men, and their wages are paid in kind, viz. 9 quarters of oats,—2 $\frac{2}{3}$ quarters of barley, and 1 quarter of pease or beans; a cow kept for them during the year; 750 yards of good well-manured land to crop with potatoes, and one pound or guinea in lieu of about 540 yards of ground which was former-

ly allowed on which to raise flax for family use. The cottage rent is commonly paid by the wife of the cottager giving twenty days reaping in harvest, or paying the wages of a reaper, which may average between L. 1, and L. 1, 10s.; for which sum, besides his house, he has a garden attached worth 8s. or 10s., and his fuel carried free of expense; so that what he receives with the cottage is of more value than the shearer's wages. Women and children receive from 6d. to 10d. a-day, according to their ability, but in harvest their wages are regulated by the market. Oatmeal and potatoes form a considerable proportion of the diet of farm-servants. They also use mixed bread, and keep a pig to consume the offal and refuse of the garden.

Though in general acquainted with the elementary branches of education—as reading, writing, and arithmetic—and amply provided with the means of information in most departments of knowledge, by having access to libraries, parochial and itinerating, they are not much given to reading, nor remarkable for their attainments in general information. Indeed, persons so early at work in the morning, and occupied with the labours of the field through the day, can have little leisure or in general inclination for literary pursuits, when they return to their cottage in the evening, exhausted and weary. Besides, they want the excitement of conversation and discussion from frequent intercourse, which give so much interest and impulse to the working-classes in manufacturing districts. In all their cottages, however, is commonly to be found a family Bible; the catechetical formularies of our church, and some approved popular works in Theology.

As the farmers have as few inefficient persons on their premises as possible, their servants when old or infirm, either pass the remainder of their days with some member of their family,—for in general they have numerous families,—or they retire to some neighbouring village or town, and take such work as they may still feel themselves equal to.

Produce.—The average amount and value of gross produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:

Produce of grain, being white crop grown on (say) 4800 Scots acres, L. 8 per acre			
		L. 38,400	0 0
Potatoes and turnips, 850 Scots acres, at L. 7 per acre,	.	5,950	0 0
Beans and pease, 525 do. at L. 6 per acre,	.	3,150	0 0
215 Scots acres of hay, at L. 5 per acre,	.	1,075	0 0
1060 Scots acres in pasture, at L. 2, 10s. per acre,	.	2,650	0 0
Gardens and orchards,	.	1,000	0 0
		<hr/>	
		L. 52,225	0 0

Fiars.—From time immemorial, it has been the practice of this county to fix, by public authority, the fiar or average prices of wheat, barley, oats, and pease,—these four species of grain being the staple produce. For this purpose, the Sheriff, about the term of Candlemas, calls before him a considerable number of respectable tenants (from different parts of the county,) and also extensive dealers in grain, who have bought and sold, delivered and received it within the county, from the separation of the preceding crop to the day on which the proof is taken. And having ascertained, upon oath, the price of considerable quantities of each of these four species of grain, he strikes one general average of the whole prices for each species,—next finds the quantity or number of bolls that have fetched a price higher than the general average, and strikes a second average of this quantity. He then finds the quantity that has been sold at a price below his first general average, and strikes a third average also of this quantity. To each of these averages he adds two and a-half per cent., and these three averages, with that addition, form the first, the second, and third fiar prices for the year.

The late Sir George B. Hepburn, Bart. took pains to ascertain the reason of two and a-half per cent. being added to the fiar averages, and found that the record of fiars goes as far back as 1627,—that it was some time the practice to strike the fiars twice in the year, at the terms of Candlemas and Lammas,—that on examining the fiars for twenty-six years, during which they were struck at Candlemas and Lammas, and taking the average of both, which seems to be the fair medium price, it turned out, in point of fact, that the Candlemas, with the addition of two and a-half per cent., was somewhat below the above medium of the double fiars. Candlemas, on several obvious considerations, is too early a period to take the average price for the whole year,—Whitsunday seems preferable. It may also be stated, that the present mode of striking the fiars has received the sanction of the Supreme Court. On 8th March 1771, the Lords gave judgment, finding, “that the rules by which the Sheriff proceeded seemed well qualified for fixing the price of victual with the greatest accuracy.”

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Town of Haddington.—The town of Haddington is pleasantly situated at the foot of the Garleton range of hills on the north, and bounded by the Tyne on the east, which divides it from the populous suburb of Nungate, to which, however, it is joined by a bridge of four arches. The town consists principally of two paral-

1el streets, running east and west, and a long cross street which bounds one of these and intersects the other nearly at right angles. The high or main parallel street, which is a continuation of the road from Edinburgh, is spacious, and the houses in general regular and handsome. The appearance of the town has of late been greatly improved by the erection of a lofty spire to the town-house, 150 feet in height, by side pavement on the streets, and gas lights, and by county buildings on a large and elegant scale, for the better accommodation of the Sheriff's court, meetings of the county, and suitable apartments for the public records.

The approaches to the town from the west and east are ornamented by a number of beautiful villas with gardens and nursery grounds adjoining.

The church is a venerable Gothic fabric, 210 feet in length, supposed to be of the thirteenth or fourteenth century. Fordun styles it *Lucerna Laudoniæ*, the lamp of Lothian, on account of the beauty of its structure, and because, being lighted at night, it was visible at a great distance. The quire and transept are now in a somewhat dilapidated state; but the square tower which surmounts the building, and is ninety feet high, is entire. The western part of the cross has been lately fitted up in a superior style, and is used as the parish church.

The municipal affairs of the burgh are now managed by a council of twenty-five persons, elected according to the provisions of the Burgh Reform Act, by a constituency of 174, at present qualified to elect, the greater part of whom are also qualified to hold office. The magistrates consist of a provost, three bailies, a treasurer, and dean of guild. The council annually elect a baron bailie over the adjoining village of Nungate, and also one over their dependencies in Gladsmuir, consisting of lands mostly feued from the town.

There are nine incorporated trades, having exclusive right to exercise their several crafts within the burgh.

The funds of the burgh arise from land, mills, feus, customs, and amount to about L. 1400 a-year.

Haddington joins with Jedburgh, Dunbar, Lauder, and North Berwick, in electing a Member of Parliament.

There are no manufactures in town, but there are two breweries and two distilleries in the vicinity; an iron forge and coach-work; a considerable trade in wool, in tanning and currying leather, in preparing bones and rape cake for manure, and in supplying the

neighbouring country and villages with such goods and articles of merchandize as they may require.

The fairs have gone into desuetude, but there is a good weekly market on Friday, when the several kinds of grain are exposed to sale in bulk for ready money. It is perhaps the largest wheat market in Scotland.

The county courts are held here by the Sheriff every Thursday during session, and a small debt court every alternate Thursday. A Justice of Peace Court also is held on the first Tuesday in every month, except March, May, and August, in which months the court is held on the first Thursday.

*Ecclesiastical State.**—Haddington is a Presbytery seat, and the meetings of that body are usually held in it. The parish church is collegiate. Both ministers have manses and glebes, and of late both stipends have been made nearly equal; the first charge having eight chalders of barley, eight chalders of oats, and three chalders of wheat, with L. 10 for communion elements; and the second seventeen chalders of victual, with L. 33, 6s. 8d. money from the town, with L. 10 for communion elements.

Besides the Established church there is an Episcopal chapel, a congregation of Old Light Seceders; two meeting-houses of the United Secession, and an Independent and a Methodist chapel. From the central situation of the town, these meetings draw a considerable proportion of their members from the neighbouring parishes; and not a few in the town and its vicinity, warmly attached to the Establishment, are forced from the parish church, through mere want of accommodation, there being seating only for 1129, to a population of nearly 6000. The number of families in the

* In the suburb of Nungate are the ruins of St Martin's Chapel, which belonged to the Abbey of Haddington. It appears from the records of the Presbytery of Haddington, which are extant as far back as A. D. 1592, that the cure of the churches of Haddington, St Martin's, and Athelstaneford, were served by one clergyman, Mr James Carmichael, from 1592 to 1602, and probably for several years preceding that period. In 1602, Mr George Grier was ordained minister of St Martin's. He seems to have had no successor. It is believed that his chapel was suffered to go into decay as St Mary's (the present parish church) was then sufficiently large to contain both congregations.

An Episcopal visitation was held 16th September 1635, when it was agreed, in presence of the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Magistrates of Haddington, and several of the heritors, that a second minister was necessary to the kirk of Haddington, and the year following Mr William Trent was collated to that charge. His stipend consisted of L. 600 Scots, all paid by the town out of the revenues of the burgh. The patronage of the second charge was claimed by the town; but, after a suit at law, it was decided in favour of the Earl of Haddington, then proprietor of the barony of Byres in the parish, and patron of the first charge. There is a famous though unsuccessful pleading of Sir George Mackenzie in support of the town's right, published by him in his specimen "*Eloquentiæ Forensis Scotiæ*."

parish attending the Established church is 830; of families attending the chapels of Dissenters or Seceders, 186; of families attending the Episcopal chapel, 26; of Roman Catholic families, 3.

Education.—Besides a grammar school for classical learning, a school for English reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography, with a department for mathematics appointed and endowed by the burgh, there is a parochial school supported by the landward heritors at the maximum salary. Fees may amount to L. 50 per annum. English reading, 2s. 6d. a quarter, writing do. 3s. 6d., arithmetic, 4s. 6d. The proportion of those who learn reading alone is two-thirds. The class books in use at present are Mr Wood's, and the Scriptures alternately. There are also several schools taught by private individuals.

Under the head of education it may be mentioned that there are several Sabbath schools taught by the elders of the Established church; each taking charge, as far as practicable, of the young in his own allotted district of the parish.

Mechanics Institution.—A mechanics School of Arts was commenced here so early as 1823, in which lectures in chemistry, in several branches of mechanics, and in physical, moral, and economic science, have been delivered. The institution is provided with a suitable apparatus, museum, and library.

Tyneside Games.—These games, consisting of various gymnastic exercises, as running, leaping, wrestling, &c. &c. have been celebrated these two years past in Amisfield Park, amid a great concourse of spectators, and under the patronage of the neighbouring noblemen and gentlemen.

Societies.—Many societies hold their regular meetings here, as the Agricultural, Horticultural, and the Ancient fraternity of gardeners of East Lothian. There are also societies for extending the knowledge and influence of religion over the world, as the East Lothian Bible Society, and the Society for Propagating Christianity, with their auxiliaries of a penny a-week, and a Juvenile society of 1d. a-week.

Various benevolent Societies have been instituted, and are in operation for the aid and relief of sick or indigent members. Lately, a Mutual Assurance society has been formed, on the best principles of calculation, embracing, 1st, a Sickness fund for granting weekly payments during sickness; 2dly, a deferred Annuity fund for affording allowances to members for life after completing sixty

years of age ; 3dly, a Life Assurance fund for affording a sum on the death of members.

A Female Society has been for a long time in use, to visit and afford pecuniary relief to the sick and aged poor, and to minister to their instruction and comfort, by reading the Scriptures, and giving them suitable tracts.

There is also a Dispensary for supplying flannel clothing, wine, and porter, as cases certified by a medical attendant require, according to the number or amount of subscriptions of 10s. 6d. ordered by the subscriber.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—Paupers are maintained by legal assessment on the valued rent of the landward heritors ; the town of Haddington paying a stipulated proportion out of its own funds or patrimony. Besides weekly collections at the church doors, which, now that an assessment is established, do little more than pay the salaries of the session-clerk, precentor, beadles, and other incidents,—the session have L. 300 of mortified money under their management, for behoof of the poor.

The late David Gourlay, Esq. bequeathed a field of four acres, with L. 450, and L. 840, 3s. 2d. stock, the rent and interest of which he directed to be applied by the parochial ministers, as they might deem fit, to aid the industrious poor ; but by no means to relieve the heritors from their legal obligations. The average amount of church collections for the poor is between L. 50 and L. 60 a-year ;—of assessments, about L. 800 ; of legacies, L. 300.

Banks.—There are two banks,—branches of the Bank of Scotland and of the British Linen Company.

Savings Bank.—In 1815 a savings bank was established. Those who avail themselves of the benefit of this institution are generally mechanics, day-labourers, and servants. At last settlement with the treasurer in March 1833, there were 133 depositors, and about L. 1000 in deposit. The amount yearly invested is L. 205 : withdrawn, L. 175.

Libraries.—There are several valuable libraries worthy of notice, as the Presbytery library for the use of that Reverend body ; a gift from a society of pious individuals in London more than a century ago ; a library bequeathed to the town of Haddington, by the Rev. John Gray, Episcopal minister at Aberlady, with 50 merks a year, to add to it from time to time by the purchase of new books ; a Parish library established from the funds of the late Mr Andrew Begbie, farmer in Barney mains, and a respectable member of session ; a

Subscription Library, containing about 1000 volumes. Haddington is also the head quarters of Samuel Brown, Esq.'s Itinerating Libraries :* whence they set out and whither they return.

* As the introduction of itinerating libraries is a new and cheap means of diffusing useful knowledge, especially among those in the humbler walks of life,—and as it appears, from authentic printed reports and memoirs, that much good has already been done by this mode of circulating information, it seems proper to insert a letter from the worthy and benevolent author of the institution (at present chief magistrate of Haddington) to the writer, giving a general view of the origin, progress, and present state of these institutions :—

REV. AND DEAR SIR,

Haddington, 5th May 1835.

I began the plan of itinerating libraries in East Lothian in 1817, with five divisions of 50 volumes each, and there are now (1835) under my superintendence in this county, forty-three divisions of 50 volumes, besides about 450 volumes of new and agricultural books for the use of the annual subscribers of 5s. ; in all 2600 volumes. The new books are kept at Haddington, Dunbar, and North Berwick, for a few years for the use of subscribers to the above amount, and are afterwards arranged into divisions of 50 volumes, and stationed in the towns and villages of the county for two years, when they are removed and exchanged. The regular removal and supply of new divisions has excited and kept up such a disposition to read, that in several stations during the winter months, scarcely a volume is left in the book-case. To persons acquainted with the issues from the usual settled libraries of 2600 volumes, and of eighteen years standing, the following statement will appear almost incredible. The issues (by a calculation I made in 1830) of the new books at Haddington to the subscribers have been nearly eight and a-half times for every volume. The gratuitous issues at Haddington have been seven and a-half times every volume ; at Gifford, Salton, Aberlady, North Berwick, Belhaven, and Spott, they have been seven times every volume ; and the issues of the whole establishment, so far as reported, have been on an average five times every volume. In all cases the librarians give their services gratuitously. Until 1831, the books were lent gratuitously, the new excepted ; but the readers made voluntary contributions at the greater number of the stations. In that year the plan was so far altered, that one penny was required for the use of a volume during the first year a library was in the station ; and during the second the books were lent gratuitously. This alteration has considerably increased the funds, while the gratuitous reading during the second year is training the young to a taste for reading. In 1831, with the assistance of the Scottish Missionary Society and several West India proprietors, I sent four divisions to Jamaica, to be under the direction of the missionaries of that society. In 1831 and 1834, I received from a few friends of the plan about L. 400, to promote the introduction of libraries into certain specified districts, and I have since sent to various parts of Scotland, England, Ireland, Jamaica, Canada, South Africa, St Petersburg, ninety divisions containing 4500 volumes. They were furnished at cost prices, and to some districts at half the cost price, and those sent to Ireland still lower. They were placed under the superintendence of gentlemen or ladies in the different districts. In 1826, a society was formed in Edinburgh for establishing itinerating libraries in Mid-Lothian, but its exertions had been greatly neutralized by deaths amongst its original members, and various other circumstances. Last year I agreed with the committee to take the superintendence of their libraries, and in Edinburgh, Leith, and the vicinity, there are now twenty-one divisions, besides stations for new books at Buccleuch Place, and Hill Street Academies, and the Young Ladies Seminary, George Street.

As I am convinced that the plan is calculated to be extensively useful at a small expense, I will be always happy to give any information in my power on the subject to any person who may wish it. I am, your's sincerely, (Signed) SAMUEL BROWN.

To Rev. Dr LORIMER.

PARISH OF PRESTONKIRK.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES THOMSON, MINISTER.

THE REV. JOHN THOMSON, ASSISTANT & SUCCESSOR.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of this parish was originally, and so early as the twelfth century, Linton,—the name still given to the principal village in the parish, which appears to have been so called from a lynn or waterfall in the river Tyne, at the place where the village is situated. This continued to be its principal name till the Reformation; but before that period it was also known by the name of the Halch or Haugh, from the circumstance of the church being situated near a haugh on the banks of the Tyne; hence it was afterwards called Prestonhaugh; and at a later period it received its present name of Prestonkirk. It is still designated “Prestonhaugh, otherwise called Prestonkirk,” in Presentations and other legal writings.

Extent and Boundaries.—Its extent is about 4 miles from east to west, and about 7 miles from north to south; and it consists of about 15 square miles. It is of an irregular figure, stretching out for $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles into a narrow stripe of land to the northward, which is detached from the rest of the parish. It is bounded on the west by the parishes of Haddington and Athelstaneford; on the north by Dirleton and North Berwick; on the east by Whitekirk and Dunbar; on the south by Stenton, Whittingham, and Moreham.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface is a little varied, but there are no hills or valleys of any considerable extent, with the exception of Traprain-Law, a hill situated towards the south boundary of the parish. The extent of this hill is about 40 Scotch acres, and it affords excellent pasturage for sheep, but is too steep and precipitous for cattle. On the south side it is very nearly perpendicular. A little to the north of this hill is a curious irregular valley of considerable depth, and very narrow, in the bottom of which runs a very small rivulet. This valley is considered the most fertile part

of the farm in which it is situated, except near the river, where there are some rocks.

The parish is remarkable for the healthiness of its inhabitants, having seldom been visited by any epidemic disorder.

Hydrography.—The only river in the parish is the Tyne, running from west to east, and dividing the parish nearly in the centre. It has its rise ten miles above Haddington, and falls into the sea about three miles north-west from Dunbar. The course is little varied, except at the village of Linton, where it falls over a considerable height of claystone rocks, forming the lynn from which the village derives its name. These rocks are mentioned in the former Statistical Account as supposed to obstruct the progress of salmon up the river. Since that period, a passage has been opened for them, but without the desired effect, few or no fish having ever been found farther up, while the levelling of the rocks has materially hurt the beauty of the waterfall, which is indeed entirely destroyed, except in the time of a flood.

Geology and Mineralogy.—In this parish there are only three species of rocks found,—uncovered claystone, clinkstone, and limestone. Of these, by far the most widely diffused is claystone. It occurs in an obscurely basaltic form at many different places in the parish, as, on the Smeaton estate, and on the Phantassie estate, to the westward of the village of Linton; it also forms the lynn above-mentioned. It is of a dark purplish brown colour, often porphyritic, containing crystals of felspar, and in general deeply impregnated with iron. The rock next in the frequency of its occurrence is clinkstone. This forms the whole of Traprain-Law, and of the rocks which are quarried close by the turnpike road at Pencraig, about a mile and a quarter to the west of Linton. Its structure is slaty, with seams running across the slates dividing it into imperfect columns. Its colour is generally a light mottled brown, sometimes porphyritic. At one part of Traprain-Law it has a bluish gray tint, greatly resembling greenstone, to which rock it also shows an approach at the summit, where it contains grains of hornblende. At Pencraig it contains veins of a yellow jasper, susceptible of a good polish, and also veins of heavy spar: in this it resembles the clinkstone of the Garleton hills, a few miles to the westward. Limestone occurs along the ridge extending eastward from Traprain-Law; its colour is mostly a brownish red, and it contains a great quantity of flinty matter disposed in veins. Its strata are nearly horizontal, and are covered with a deep formation

of a calcareous marl, which is sometimes employed for agricultural purposes instead of lime.

These three rocks are the only ones occurring in this parish,—probably partly traversing and partly resting on the red sandstone, which forms the regular strata of the district, resting on the transition rocks of Lammermoor, and covered by the coal formation of Mid-Lothian. The soil of the parish is, for the most part, near the river, of a sandy or gravelly nature. To the north of this it becomes gradually of a stronger nature, till it ends in a very stiff clay; and, farther north again it becomes lighter. To the south it is calcareous.*

Zoology.—Under this head, it may be mentioned that our birds of prey are, for the most part, confined to the kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*), the ringtail (*F. cyaneus*), and the sparrowhawk (*F. nisus*), and two species of owls. We have no grouse of any kind, but partridges and pheasants are numerous. In severe winters the Bohemian chatterer (*Garrulus Bohemicus*) has once or twice been seen. The kingfisher once frequented the river, but is now extinct. Perhaps the sand martin (*Hirundo riparia*) is more numerous than in most places. In autumn various sea birds, as the gull genus, particularly the *Larus canus*, and the cormorant and duck tribe, visit us. The latter, especially the common wild duck and the widgeon, frequent the mouth of the river in flocks of many hundreds every winter. Herons are common, and breed in the neighbouring parish of Whitekirk.

The Tyne contains very large trout, eels, flounders, and a good many small salmon, with several minute species. From our inland situation, our invertebrate animals are almost wholly confined to insects. Concerning these there is little particularly worthy of notice. The Death's-Head Sphinx (*Sphinx atropos*) was found very frequently in 1825 in the pupa state in potato fields. The Puss Moth (*Cerura vinula*) is also common. The damage done to wheat crops of late years by the *Cecidomyia tritici*, or wheat-fly, is well known. The *Stomoxys calcitrans*, or common stinging-fly, which in hot weather persecutes men and beasts with its painful bite, is more numerous in this district than in most parts of Scotland.

Botany.—Owing to the highly cultivated state of this district, it affords a still less interesting field to the botanist than to the zoologist. There are no natural woods in the parish, but a good

* It may here be remarked, that the geognostical descriptive language used by the authors of the Statistical Reports is that introduced many years ago by Professor Jameson, and which now, notwithstanding the violent opposition it met with, is universally adopted by British geologists.

many very fine trees, particularly near the church, and the village of Preston. There are no rare plants, unless the following: *Geranium sanguineum*, *Arenaria verna*, *Viola lutea*, *Dianthus deltoides*, *Sedum Telephium*, which grow on Traprain-Law; the *Pyrola minor*, and *Hypericum pulchrum*, occur on Smeaton grounds.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—Two of the most eminent agriculturists of East Lothian lived and died in this parish, viz. George Rennie, Esq. of Phantassie, and Robert Brown, Esq. tenant of Markle. The former died in 1828, the latter in 1831. Both have long been celebrated for their exertions in the improvement of the husbandry of this country.—The late John Rennie, Esq. long an eminent engineer in London, and brother to George Rennie, Esq. was also born and brought up in this parish.—Mr Andrew Meikle, the inventor of the thrashing machine, lived for a considerable time, and died here. Though his claims as the inventor of the thrashing machine have been disputed, there can be no doubt that he brought the machine to its present state of perfection, by inventing the fixed beaters or skutchers now in universal use, and from want of which all previous inventions had proved useless. A tombstone erected to his memory in the churchyard of Prestonkirk testifies this fact.

Land-owners.—There are six principal heritors,—the Trustees of the late George Rennie of Phantassie; Miss Dalrymple of Hailes; the Earl of Wemyss; Sir Alexander Hope; Sir David Kinloch; and Sir Thomas Buchan Hepburn, and four smaller proprietors.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers began in 1663, and are complete,—that is, none of the volumes are wanting; but the number of names registered varies at different periods. Of late years almost every birth in the parish has been regularly entered.

Antiquities.—There is mentioned in the Saxon annals a place of worship under the name of Ecc. S. Baldridi, which stood on the site of the present church so far back as 1000 years ago. The principal ruin in the parish is Hailes Castle, famous for once having been the temporary residence of Queen Mary when carried off by the Earl of Bothwell, then possessor of the castle. It is now rapidly going to decay, though part of it is still used as a granary. It is now the property of Miss Dalrymple of Hailes. The only other ruin in the parish is an old religious house on the farm of Markle, the property of Sir David Kinloch of Gilmerton. It appears that a monastery was early established here, and continued till the Reformation; but it is testified in the Parliamentary records,

that, in 1606, a considerable part of the land originally belonging to the monastery was resumed by the Crown, and annexed to the Chapel Royal of Stirling. That the whole lands were not resumed is manifest, because the park in which the ruin is situated, and another adjoining to it, still called the Provost's Park, have for more than a century and a half belonged to the proprietors of the barony (See Farmers' Magazine for March 1811.) Very little is known about this religious establishment, but from the present state of the building, which is very ruinous, it seems to have been of considerable extent, but of very rude workmanship. There are several rude stones of considerable height erected in different parts of the county, seemingly intended to mark the burial places of some chief or officer who had fallen in battle, one of which exists in the parish, a little to the west of the village of Linton. Tombs, or stone coffins, have been found by the ploughmen in several places, marking the site of a field of battle.

Modern Buildings.—Smeaton House, the residence of Sir Thomas Hepburn, is the only mansion house in the parish. There is indeed one at Beanston, belonging to the Earl of Wemyss, but it has been uninhabited for several years, and will soon be in ruins. There are in the parish four oatmeal and barley mills, one flour mill, one exclusively for barley, and one connected with a distillery. The distillery employs 50 men, is capable of distilling 500,000 gallons per annum, and pays L. 112,000 of duty.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the amount of the population was	1318
1792, was only,	1176
1811,	1471
1821,	1812
1831,	1765

The causes of the diminution which has taken place since 1821 are probably these; 1st, In some farms where new leases have been granted in that period, several old houses have been pulled down which were not required to afford labourers for the farms, while in some instances two or more farms have been united, and consequently the number of inhabitants diminished. 2d, In 1821, there was an academy kept by the Dissenting clergyman, which has since been given up, causing a diminution of twelve or fifteen.

The population in the village and the country part of the parish is as follows:

Village of Linton, . . .	715
Preston, - - -	48
Country part, - - -	1002
Total, . . .	<hr/> 1765

The yearly average for the last seven years of births,	-	-	38
of deaths,	-	-	23
of marriages,	-	-	15
The average number of persons under 15 years of age,	-	-	720
betwixt 15 and 30,	-	-	451
betwixt 30 and 50,	-	-	368
betwixt 50 and 70,	-	-	186
upwards of 70,	-	-	50
The number of unmarried men upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	32
women upwards of 45, of whom 44 are widows,	-	-	80
The average number of persons in each family nearly*	-	-	5
The number of insane persons,	-	-	3
of blind,	-	-	3
of deaf and dumb,	-	-	2
The number of families in the parish,	-	-	407
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	291
in trade, manufacture, or handicraft,	-	-	85

There is only one family of independent fortune at present residing in the parish, viz. Sir Thomas Hepburn of Smeaton.

The number of proprietors of land worth upwards of L. 50 yearly is six or seven.

Character of the People.—The farm-servants in East Lothian enjoy the comforts of society in a greater degree than persons in the same rank of life in any other part of the country. They are, for the most part, allowed a cow's grass and potato land, and have an opportunity of keeping a pig, and, in some instances, poultry, which enables them to keep their families in a state of comfort superior to that of most of the labouring classes elsewhere, and they are in general quite contented with their situation and circumstances. But work of all kinds is more difficult to be had than formerly, which sometimes presses hard upon those who are employed upon days' wages. They are in general exemplary in their moral character, there being no instance within the memory of the writer of this of any person connected with the parish having been convicted of any crime before the Justiciary Court. They are in general attentive enough to the outward duties of religion, though it must be confessed there is far less of the knowledge and the spirit of it than is to be desired and is to be found in some other districts: but there is no reason to mark any late declension in this respect; perhaps rather, an improvement is gradually taking place.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—

The number of acres in the parish, Imperial measure, is	-	-	6270
The number of acres constantly in pasture, about	-	-	200

There is no land capable of being cultivated which has not been

* The number of children is 2 2-3ds.

so. There is no natural wood, and the extent of land under planted wood is very limited.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land is about L. 2, 2s. per Scotch acre. There is no pasture ever let at so much per ox; but the average rent is from L. 3 to L. 5 per Scotch acre.

Live-Stock.—The breed of cattle to which most attention is now paid is the short-horned, introduced into East Lothian about ten years ago by Mr John Rennie Junior, of Phantassie. The Leicester and Cheviot breeds of sheep are principally propagated, but many of the black-faced species also are yearly fattened on turnips.

Husbandry.—The general character of husbandry pursued is of the most improved kind. Turnips are cultivated to a considerable extent in drills, and consumed on the ground by sheep, and a portion of them by cattle in the straw yard. Drilled white crops are also common upon dry soils. The usual rotation of crops is either, 1st, oats; 2d, beans; 3d, wheat; 4th, fallow or turnips; 5th, wheat or barley; 6th, grass; or 1st, oats; 2d, turnips; 3d, wheat sown in spring, or barley; 4th, grass. The last rotation is only used on light soils. The peculiar features of the agriculture in this parish and county, are, 1st, The early ploughing of stubble in winter. 2d, The thorough eradication of weeds, and pulverizing of the soil in fallow or before the sowing of turnips. 3d, The careful extraction of annual weeds from amongst the growing corn; and lastly, never in ordinary circumstances having two white crops in succession. The only improvement which can be suggested would be to have the land longer in grass, and to sow wheat less frequently. But the high rents render the former of these impracticable for tenants. The latter is, however, frequently adopted. There is no waste land in the parish capable of cultivation. Draining is carried on to a great extent. Irrigation has never been practised. Bruised bones, rape dust, and other manures, not the produce of the farm, are now more or less used by almost every farmer.

The general duration of leases is nineteen years. There are still two liferent leases in this parish, which have proved highly detrimental to the interest of the landlord, without communicating any corresponding advantage to the tenant.

The state of farm buildings is, with a few exceptions, good. A considerable improvement has taken place both in them, and in enclosures of late years. Steam-engines have been erected on three farms in the parish, for the purpose of driving thrashing machines.

The first, which was erected seven years ago, is a low pressure ; and the other two are high pressure ones.

The principal improvements since the date of the last Statistical Account are the cultivation of a large extent of common, and the much better state in which the roads are now kept.

Fisheries.—There is a small salmon fishing in the river Tyne, but the part connected with the parish is so insignificant as to render it not worth mentioning. The greater number are caught at the mouth of the river, in the parish of Whitekirk. It is rented, however, by a person residing in this parish ; but it is generally believed to be scarcely sufficient to pay any rent, as it is attended with considerable labour, and expense of time.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish is computed to be nearly as follows :

Produce of grain of all kinds, wheat, oats, barley, beans,	-	L. 23000	0	0
Potatoes, turnips, mangel wurzel, &c,	-	4500	0	0
Hay,	-	1200	0	0
Land in pasture, at from L. 3 to L 5. per acre Scotch,	-	4500	0	0
Gardens and orchards,	-	250	0	0
Total yearly value of raw produce,		L. 33450	0	0

Rental, L. 10500.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There is a post-office at Linton, where letters are delivered from Edinburgh every day, and the mail to Edinburgh from London passes daily. The great London road passes through the middle of the parish ; its extent is four miles ; on which at present five public coaches travel daily,—the London mail, one stage coach to London, one to Berwick-upon-Tweed, and two to Dunbar, all from Edinburgh. There is only one bridge, which is over the river Tyne, in the line of the great London road, near the village of Linton ; it is in good repair, but too narrow, and awkwardly situated for carriages.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the parish church is upon the whole convenient. It is only half a-mile from the eastern extremity of the parish, but it is at an equal distance from the other extremities ; its greatest distance from any part being from three to four miles. It was built in 1770, and enlarged in 1824 to the extent of 200 sittings. The whole number which it can contain now is about 800. The whole of the sittings were originally free, and divided among the heritors ; thus excluding all the inhabitants of the village, which constitutes nearly one-half of the population. But the heritors agreed to give up so many sittings for the use of the villagers, fifty of which are let for the sum of 1s. each per

annum, which goes to the poors' funds. The manse was built in 1795, and has never been repaired. The glebe, including garden and site of the manse and offices, consists of about 8 Scotch acres; it may be computed to be of the value of L. 5 per acre. The whole stipend is 18 chalders, with the usual allowance for communion elements. There is one Dissenting chapel in the parish, in connection with the United Associate Synod, the minister of which is paid from funds arising from the seat rents and collections among the members of the congregation. His stipend is L. 90. There is no Episcopalian chapel in the parish. The number of families attending the Established church is 360. The number attending the meeting-house, belonging to this parish, is 47. Divine service in good weather is well attended in both places of worship. The average number of communicants in the Established church is 610. There is no society for religious purposes at present connected with this parish alone, but there are collections in the church annually for different religious and charitable institutions, which amount on an average to L. 15.

Education.—Total number of schools in the parish, 5; parochial schools, 2; one of which is a female school upheld by the heritors. Private unendowed schools, 2, of which one is female; subscription school, 1. In the parish and subscription schools all the ordinary branches are taught, in the private male school the learned languages are not taught. Besides the above-mentioned schools, there was another female school, in which the higher branches of female education were taught; but the numbers attending it were very limited. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is the maximum; that of the parochial schoolmistress is L. 3, with a house and school-room; the school fees of the former amount to L. 40 per annum; the amount of the school fees of the private schoolmaster will be nearly the same; the master of the subscription school has a salary of L. 40, and a free school-house. The parochial schoolmaster has all the legal accommodations.

There is a regulation made by the heritors of this parish, that no hind (or farm-servant) shall pay more than 10s. per quarter, whatever number of children he may have attending the school. The present parish schoolmaster was also bound by the heritors when they granted the last augmentation of his salary, to keep an assistant, who must be approved of by the minister and heritors.

All persons in the parish of a proper age can read, and, excepting

perhaps a few old people, all can write. The attendance of the young at school, however, is irregular,—as they are withdrawn at certain seasons of the year, when their labour is required in the fields, and accordingly their education is not so perfect as it should be. The schools are all in the village of Linton, from which there is no part of the parish so distant as to prevent attendance upon the schools.

Libraries.—There is one subscription library in the parish and a branch of the East-Lothian itinerating libraries.

Charitable Institutions.—There are three Friendly Societies in the parish, one of very old standing and nearly inefficient, consisting of very few members; one is a yearly society, to which the members pay 6d. per week, from which a certain sum is paid out in case of sickness, according to circumstances, and the balance is divided at the end of the year; the other is not well regulated, and does not seem likely to endure for any length of time.

Savings Banks.—There was once one in the parish, but it was given up, because it did not answer the purpose for which it was intended; those who had their money in it being solely from among a description of people who were able to put their money in ordinary banks, and who availed themselves of the saving bank merely on account of the higher rate of interest given in it. The farm-servants, receiving their wages in victual, and consequently having little money in their hands, renders saving banks of comparatively little use in this county. The nearest is in Haddington.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 32, receiving the average sum of 5s. each per month, or L. 3 per year; none receive more than 8s. per month, except in cases of lunacy. There is an annual assessment of about L. 120; the amount of church collections is only L. 15 yearly.

There are some instances of a disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief as long as they can. But in no instance are the session the first movers in placing any one on the poors' roll, and there are few who are fit applicants who do not apply; at the same time, instances of persons applying who are not entitled are very rare, and we have a few noble instances of aged and infirm persons supporting themselves upon the savings of their youth, even after bringing up large families. One old woman died last winter upwards of eighty years of age, who was left a widow with two daughters in early life, who lived comfortably, and never applied to the session or received aid of any kind.

Inns and Alehouses.—There is only one house entitled to the

appellation of an inn in Linton; besides which there are nine ale-houses in Linton, and one in Preston. Their very mischievous effect on the morals of the people, especially of young unmarried men, cannot be questioned.

Fuel.—The fuel universally used is coals, and whatever brush-wood can be obtained free of expense. The nearest coal pit is at a distance of ten miles. The price at the pit is 4½d. per cwt. or 15s. per ton. Coals are also to be had at Dunbar, which is only six miles distant; but they are much more expensive.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It does not appear that since the last Statistical Account the condition of the peasantry has undergone much change in respect of comfort, though some change has taken place in their style of living, especially in the use of cotton in place of woollen goods. Blankets, which used formerly to be spun by the females in every family, are now becoming a rare article of household furniture among young people. There is now no employment for old women in spinning, which was formerly the support of many when unfit for out-door work, and kept many from the poors' roll, who have now no other resource; and this is a branch of industry which few of the present rising generation learn. In connection with this the trade of country weavers is altogether destroyed, which has brought some upon the poors' roll, who, though still able to pursue their own occupations, are too old and infirm to betake themselves to new ones.

The great unnecessary increase of public-houses since the duty on spirits was lowered has led to very dissipated habits in many of the labouring classes, which cannot be too much regretted. It is some matter of consolation, however, that their number is less than it was a few years ago. Now the whole number in the parish, as stated above, is eleven; once there were no fewer than nineteen, but still their number far exceeds what can be required for the necessary wants of the population. There is reason, however, to suppose that the diminution arises from want of employment. A greater number of resident tenants and heritors would unquestionably have a material effect on the morals of the people. There is only one resident heritor, and three none-resident tenants, who have thirty-five families under them.

May 1835.

PARISH OF WHITEKIRK AND TYNNINGHAME.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES WALLACE, D. D., MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE parish of Whitekirk, as now constituted, comprehends the ancient parishes of Tynninghame, Hamer, and Aldham. Tynninghame is understood to signify the hamlet on the meadow by the river Tyne; Hamer signifies the larger village, in contradistinction perhaps to Aldham, the ancient village, at two miles distance, but of which hardly a vestige now remains. The church of Hamer, from the whiteness of its appearance, had been long known by the name of Whitekirk, and under that name are commonly included the three parishes as now united.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish approaches to the figure of a square. It is situated at the mouth of the Firth of Forth, and in the best district of East Lothian. It stretches between 3 and 4 miles along the sea shore, and between 4 and 5 miles into the country, being about an equal distance from Dunbar and North Berwick, and having these parishes and the parish of Prestonkirk for its boundaries.

Topographical Appearances.—The general aspect of the parish is beautiful. The point of greatest altitude above the medium level of the sea is 243 feet, yet it possesses a sufficient variety of surface, and when viewed either from Whitekirk hill, or from Law-head, (the two most considerable eminences in the parish) it presents a rich and varied landscape of land in the highest state of cultivation, and of woods of great extent and beauty. The Bass, the castles of Tantallon, and Dunbar, in the immediate vicinity, and other objects of prominence and celebrity, both on the land and in the sea, may be favourably seen from these points. From the above eminences, which are cultivated to the top, and more remarkable for their extensive and diversified prospects than for their elevation above the sea, the land slopes with a gentle declivity.

chiefly towards the south and south-west;—almost the only perfectly flat ground being the rich haughs on both sides of the river Tyne, extending from the Knowmiln to the sea.

Climate.—The climate is dry and salubrious. Less rain is observed to fall here than in many of the neighbouring parishes. Clouds from the west charged with rain, and of a threatening appearance, often break at the end of the Pentland, and still nearer, on the Garleton hills, and taking the direction of Lammermoor, or of the Firth of Forth, or of both, leave our fields comparatively dry. This may not be in every case for the advantage of the farmers; but the soil being generally strong and deep, is not soon affected by drought. From this greater dryness of atmosphere, and consequently from a brighter and less interrupted sunshine, no less than from the fertility of the soil, may probably proceed that superior quality of grain, for which this district has been long remarkable. During the months of April and May, the east winds are often keenly felt, but against their ungenial influence there is no shelter anywhere. They have been occasionally felt to blow as piercingly in the town of Dumfries (one of the mildest climates in Scotland) as on the coast of East Lothian. The population are subject to no peculiar disease. Ague, formerly prevalent, has long been unknown; and the climate may be pronounced a decidedly healthy one.

Hydrography.—The Tyne is the only stream of water in the parish that can be called a river. It rises near Borthwick, in the county of Edinburgh, and after pursuing a north-easterly course of nearly thirty miles, it intersects the old parish of Tynninghame, and falls into the sea at Tynninghame bay. By the reflux of the tide, which affects the course of the river for nearly two miles, the water spreads at full tide into an extensive lake on the Salt Greens, in front of the Earl of Haddington's house, and forms one of the enlivening and admired features of that magnificent residence. The gentle ebbing of the tide leaves no sediment to spoil the beauty of the greens, which in a short time are seen covered with sheep, and in summer with a profusion of sea-pink.

The gray salmon frequent the Tyne, but not in such abundance as to be an article of much profit to the proprietor. The Earl of Haddington has the sole right of fishing the Tyne, and the sea coast on both sides of it, for three or four miles, from the small rivulet Pepper, to within a cable's length of Belhaven water, within a mile of Dunbar.

There was, till within these twenty years, a celebrated well

called our *Lady's Well*, in honour of the virgin, within a gunshot of the church of Whitekirk, and partaking, as was formerly believed, of the sanctity of that establishment. In times when more miracles were supposed to be wrought than at present, and pilgrimages more in vogue, it was said to be famous for the cure of barrenness. But the well and its virtues have been sacrificed to what the creed of those times would have considered a sordid and unhallowed agriculture. Drains and ditches have not left the pilgrim a drop to drink.

Geology and Mineralogy.—There is a great variety of soil in the parish. On both sides of the river it is alluvial, but much of it beyond the reach of running water, is of a dark-coloured loam, and in some places more or less mixed with red clay. Even on the very highest ground, the soil is good, though thin, being incumbent on whinstone rock, but so near the surface, as to admit only of a very shallow furrow.

The sea coast from the mouth of the river Tyne to Peffer, a small rivulet, a mile and a half westward, is sandy, with the exception of Ravensheugh and the small promontory of Whitberry, which are of trap (augite greenstone, basaltic greenstone, trap tuffa,) and red sandstone. The sandstone near to the trap is variously changed. From the farm-house of Scoughall to the boundary of the parish at Tantallon Castle, especially that part of it to the westward of the old mansion house of Auldham, the cliffs are precipitous and rugged, in some places not less than about 100 feet high, overhanging the sea. These cliffs, and the ledges of rock which run from them into the sea, composed of red sandstone, red clay iron stone, red and green slaty clays, red trap tuff, &c., have been described by the highest authority, Professor Jameson, in his *Geognosy of East Lothian*, published in the *Memoirs of the Wernerian Society*.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—There are but three heritors; each of them possessing what was formerly a separate parish. Tynninghame belongs to the Earl of Haddington, the present Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; Whitekirk to Sir David Baird of Newbyth, Bart.; and Auldham to George Sligo, Esq. The residences of the two former have the benefit of great shelter from the woods which surround them; and Seacliffe House, where Mr Sligo lives, has the command of some of the finest sea views that are any where to be

* The Ravensheugh point of Dr Macknight in the *Wernerian Memoirs*, is, according to Mr Hay Cunningham, Whitberry Point.

found. The heritors have been generally resident, and exceedingly ready to promote in every way the comfort of the inhabitants.

Parochial Registers.—The schoolmaster's house at Whitekirk was burnt in the year 1760, and the session registers previous to that date destroyed. The records of the old parish of Tynninghame extend as far back as 1615, and besides their more appropriate contents, contain frequent allusions to passing events. There are several entries, for instance, relative to the defeat of the Marquis of Montrose in 1645. After mentioning that a paper had been read from the pulpit, from the committee at Dunbar, "anent any that had any midling with James Graham or his complices," and after alluding to a public thanksgiving "to be keepit and maid for the great victorie at Philiphauche" the observance of that solemnity is thus recorded:—"19 October 1645. This day the publick thanksgiving weill keepit, praised be God for the notable and great victorie never to be forgot at Philiphauche, quherin James Graham and his forcies were utterlie defaitt and overthrawin, we thank the Lord God of our Salvation throuch Jesus Chryst therefor forevir."

The records have not been uniformly kept with very great accuracy.

III.—POPULATION.

The increase of population for the last forty years has been inconsiderable. There are no feus in the parish, and a new house is rarely built but in room of an old one, the existing population being found sufficient for the purposes of agriculture. The hinds, who constitute the bulk of the inhabitants, are removable every year, and it depends on their having larger or smaller families, at the time the census is taken, whether the population has the appearance of considerable increase or diminution.

In the year 1792 it amounted to	994
1807	953
1822	1023
1834	1062
In the last of these years there were above 12 years of age,	785
under 12,	277

The oldest person in the parish was born in the year 1745.

Character of the People.—The population is entirely agricultural. The parish has long had the advantage of a skilful and respectable tenantry, and the habits of the people generally are influenced in no small degree by their ordinary pursuits. The skilful and successful cultivation of the soil requires, and has established the incessant industry of the inhabitants; and being removed

from the contamination, too often arising from the vicinity of large towns, they are delivered from many temptations, to which a more exposed and less industrious population are liable. The people therefore are, on the whole, exemplary, civil in their manners, and decent in their life and conversation. They enjoy in a reasonable degree the comforts and advantages of society—shew no disinclination to labour—and would be more contented with their situation and circumstances, were there more encouragement, than of late years, to the industry of the husbandman, and consequently a greater demand for the services of the labourer.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—Agriculture is an art in which the skill of the husbandman has been here long conspicuous. In the last Statistical Account the land was described as being in the “highest state of cultivation.”* There is, however, one particular, in which a valuable change has taken place, and that is in live-stock.

Live-Stock.—About eight or ten years ago, Mr John Rennie, at that time resident in an adjoining parish, had the merit of introducing extensively both the Teeswater breed of cattle and the Leicester sheep, and a considerable number of cattle are now bred and fed off at two years old, fetching from L. 10 to L. 15 each. The sheep stock are bought at the spring and autumn markets. A few Leicester ewes for early lambs are kept; and to a greater extent Cheviot and black-faced ewes, with their lambs, are fattened upon grass for the Edinburgh market. Besides these, a large proportion of the grass lands is pastured with cattle, and Cheviot and black-faced wedders. Very little hay is made. About 2000 sheep

* Then, and afterwards, there were several distinguished agriculturists in the parish; and more recently several premiums have been awarded by the Highland Society to Mr Andrew Howden, Lawhead, (to whose kindness I am indebted for what may be stated under this head,) for several very accurate reports on agricultural subjects. The first premium was for a report on the comparative value of farm-yard dung with other manures, in growing turnips. The result of the experiment was, that well decomposed farm-yard dung was superior to any of the thirteen varieties which were put to the test, and that bone dust upon light soils, and fish garbage mixed with earth produced full crops.

The second experiment related to the sowing of white crops, broad cast, or in drills. When the land is infested with weeds, or when the crop is likely to suffer from over luxuriance, drilling is recommended, and only under these circumstances.

In a third experiment, with a view to ascertain whether it be profitable or otherwise to steam food for cattle, Mr Howden was the first, it is believed, to ascertain that loss was occasioned by steaming. He received the society's silver medal for his report on this subject.

The last communication which Mr Howden made, related to the growth and qualities of upwards of a hundred varieties of the potato. The report contains several interesting facts, amongst others, that it is safe and profitable to plant the tubers whole, rather than to cut them, as is commonly done.

are fed on turnips. When the turnips are let, the price per week is from 4d. to 6d. for each sheep.

Husbandry.—All kinds of grain are cultivated. The rotation followed upon the clay soil is, 1st, fallow, manured; 2d, wheat; 3d, grass; 4th, oats; 5th, beans, drilled and manured; 6th, wheat. Upon the free loam and lighter soils, the four-course shift is practised; as, 1st, turnips, partly with bone dust (first introduced into this parish by Mr Alexander Dudgeon, who, it is believed, was the second farmer in Scotland who applied this useful manure;) after turnips, the 2d crop is spring wheat or barley; 3d, grass; 4th, oats. In some cases the continuance of the grass a second year is thought, in the present depressed state of agriculture, to be for the interest of the farmer.

Of the 6000 imperial acres which the parish may contain, there may be about 4000 under a system of alternate cropping, the remainder being under wood and grass. There is a waste and sandy marsh of about 300 acres, formed at the estuary of the river Tyne, which the Earl of Haddington has it in contemplation to embank, and which it is supposed will amply repay the expense.

Leases and Rents.—Leases are granted for nineteen or twenty-one years' endurance, and possession in this way is held to be an unquestionable advantage to the proprietor, the farmer, and the community at large; indeed the want of possession for a number of years certain is an acknowledged bar to successful agriculture.

In the last Statistical Account of this parish, the writer mentions, that, "in some cases, former rents had tripled;" but the return of peace and other causes rendered it difficult, and, in several of these cases, impossible, for the farmers to fulfil their engagements, even after great sacrifices. A scheme for the relief of his tenants, worthy of so distinguished a nobleman, was devised by John late Earl of Hopetoun, whereby the money rent which had been promised was converted into a proportion of wheat, at the price it was expected to realize when the contract of lease was made, and at the same time a maximum price was fixed, to protect the farmer against contingency; and this mode of paying rent is now generally adopted. We have only one or two exceptions within the parish; in these instances the average money paid is L. 2, 17s. 6d. per imperial acre. The average proportion of wheat per acre, paid at the fiars price for East Lothian, is nine bushels. The average produce from land under crop may be thirty-six bushels of wheat and beans; forty-eight bushels of barley; and sixty bushels of oats.

The valued rent of the parish is L. 7671, 1s. 2d. Scots. The real rent when wheat is at L. 2. 16, per quarter is L. 9727, 8s.

There are at present nine farmers who occupy from two to five hundred acres each, and there is one small farm with a mill attached. This was the residence of the late ingenious Mr Meikle, at the time he invented the thrashing-machine.

The sum assessed for the parish roads amounts to L. 85, besides L. 17 for the public road running through the parish. The roads are kept in excellent repair. The fences (chiefly thorn hedges) are also generally well kept, and the farm offices are substantial and commodious. The dwelling-houses which the farmers themselves possess are adapted to the most prosperous state of their profession.

Rate of Wages.—In winter the wages for stout labouring men are 8s. per week; and in summer 9s. The women's wages for bondage work, as it is called, (working in the fields or in the barn,) are 8d. or 9d. per day. The hinds or horsemen receive for a year's service nine imperial quarters of oats, two quarters two bushels of barley, one quarter of pease, and if they sow and stack the crop, one bushel of wheat in addition. Besides this they have the keep of a cow, 960 yards upon one drill of potatoes, L. 1 for lint money, and their meat in harvest. These gains, taken together, amount at present to about 8s. per week.

In a retrospect of forty years we find that within that period, the hind has had an augmentation of five Linlithgow bolls of grain to his yearly income; and that smiths and wrights are paid more than double by the farmer; saddlers, and tailors and shoemakers, not less in proportion. The value of farm produce on the other hand has for a considerable time greatly decreased, and is said to have been of late years disproportioned to the rent and the labour.

Woods.—Thomas sixth Earl of Haddington began his plantations at Tynninghame in the year 1705, and has left a noble monument of his perseverance and success. Previous to that period, the formation of any considerable body of planted trees was unknown in Scotland, and he may therefore be fairly considered as the father of plantation in that country. In a letter to his grandson, which was afterwards printed, he wrote an excellent treatise on the manner of raising forest trees, &c., containing the result of his own successful experience. He commenced his operations at the instance of his Lady, sister of the first Earl of Hopetoun, whose taste for planting was at first much stronger than his own, but he afterwards required no stimulus. In his account of the planting of Binning Wood,

which is now so valuable and so beautiful, he says, "There was a field of 300 Scots acres, called the Muir of Tynninghame, that was common to some of my tenants, and a neighbouring gentleman. This ground she (Lady H.) desired to enclose and plant. It seemed too great an attempt, and everybody advised her not to undertake it; of which number I confess I was one. But she said if I would agree to it, she made no doubt of getting it finished. I gave her free leave. The gentleman and tenants had their loss made up to them, and in the year 1707 she began to inclose it, and called it Binning Wood." The trees radiate from three centres, and this mode of planting has conduced both to the beauty and growth of the wood.

Encouraged by the success of this undertaking, and now taking great pleasure in it, the same enlightened improver, after enclosing and sheltering his fields by strips of planting, proceeded to plant several large sandy fields, close upon the sea shore. From a received notion that no trees would grow there, on account of the sea air and the north-east winds, these fields had been of little or no use, but as a rabbit warren. But the project succeeded perfectly. The trees grew, as they do still, to the water edge, and his Lordship's fondness for planting growing with the growth of his trees, he resolved "to fight no more with the cultivation of bad land, but to plant it all." The trees were adapted with great skill to the different soils in which they were planted; and yet what he says of the oak is worthy of being here recorded; "As the oak is my favourite tree, I have planted it every where; and I can show them very thriving on rich, poor, middling, heathy, gravelly, clayey, mossy, spouty, and rocky ground, nay, even upon dry sand. It is visible that the oak grows every where on my grounds faster than any other tree, some of the aquatics only excepted." Thus arose, under the skill and perseverance of this spirited nobleman, and where trees were almost before unknown, woods to the extent of 800 acres; the plantation and care of which afforded much useful occupation, and ultimately much enjoyment to himself; have been profitable to his descendants; and are at this moment the greatest ornament of the country.

On the estate of Newbyth also there is much fine timber; and near the mansion-house many noble and lofty trees.

There are in the parish probably upwards of 1000 acres of timber.

Holly Hedges.—The holly hedges of Tynninghame are far

famed, and are indeed so remarkable as to deserve particular notice. They were planted about the same time as the woods above-mentioned; and by the same nobleman. They are of great size and extent, comprising altogether 2952 yards. On the south-western side of the mansion-house there is a grass walk, on each side of which the hedges most remarkable in point of length are planted. The walk is 743 yards long, and 36 feet wide; and the hedges on each side of it are 11 feet broad at the base, and 15 feet high. To the east of the garden and melon ground, they have been permitted to rise higher; being kept there at a height of 18, 21, and even 25 feet. The hedge on the west boundary of the park is of the same dimensions, and strangers have been rarely observed to pass it, without some expression of their admiration.

At the time these hedges were planted, Tynninghame possessed little of that complete protection from the sea breeze which it now enjoys; and so judicious an improver as Lord Haddington saw readily the superiority of ever-green, and especially of holly, over deciduous hedges. His successors have preserved them with the utmost care; they are clipped twice a year, and carefully defended from cattle and sheep. The hedges seem to have been planted on banks so much raised as to keep the roots dry and sufficiently drained; and their growth has been most vigorous in a deep light loam. There are many beautiful single holly trees, of very considerable dimensions, not only in the neighbourhood of the mansion-house, but all over Binning Wood; from 5 feet to between 7 and 8 feet in circumference; and rising to a height of from 46 to 54 feet. These add greatly in winter to the beauty and gaiety of the place.

Grass, &c.—Rye-grass and clover, and the practice of fallowing land, were introduced into East Lothian by the same patriotic nobleman, to whom the county owes its finest woods and hedges. The Earl of Haddington had brought down to Tynninghame several English farmers, to assist him in executing his plans; and in 1708 “he fell heartily to work,” and showed in practice, the importance of these two most essential agricultural improvements. His example was soon followed in the neighbourhood, and by degrees over the whole country. *

* It may gratify curiosity to mention some of the items of the sumptuous entertainments given at Tynninghame, on the 21st of August 1679, at the baptism of this early and distinguished benefactor of the country. Every thing connected with him seems to have been on a great scale. The account of them has been preserved in the family household-book, and is as follows;—“For dinner: of fresh beef, six pieces;

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—Dunbar and Haddington, the former seven, the latter nine miles distant, are the market-towns chiefly resorted to, although the town of North Berwick and the village of Linton are both nearer.

Means of Communication.—The nearest post-office is Prestonkirk, a distance of three miles and a-half. The great road from Edinburgh to London passes through the south end of the parish; and a number of public carriages, at different hours, ply daily on that road. The turnpike road from Dunbar to North Berwick, passes for about four miles through the middle of the parish; and the only considerable bridge, the bridge across the Tyne, is on this line of road.

Ecclesiastical State.—The Gospel was introduced into East Lothian in the sixth century. St Baldred, the disciple of Kentigern or St Mungo, being the first Christian Apostle, fixed his cell at Tynninghame, where a monastery was afterwards erected, but his pious labours extended far and wide,—the boundaries of his pastoral care being thus described by Simeon of Durham, “*Tota terra quæ pertinet ad monasterium sancti Baltheri quod vocatur Tynningham a Lamermore usque ad Escemuthe,*” so that his ministry embraced the whole length of the county, from Lammermoor to Inveresk. All accounts concur in representing this early and zealous propagator of the Christian faith as being held in extreme veneration when living; and several of the conterminous parishes are said to have contended for his body when he was dead. But we leave the *miracles* ascribed to St Baldred, and the stories about his *boat* and *cradle*, (rocks on the shore and within sea mark) to those who are inclined to clear the obscurities, and investigate the legends of the sixth century. Suffice it to say of him, what Archbishop Spottiswood says of his instructor, St Mungo, “That he appears to have been a man worthy to have been a subject of truth to posterity, not of fables and fictions, as the legends of monks have made him.” He died in the year 606. Anlaf, the Dane, spoil-

mutton, sixteen pieces; veal, four pieces; venison, three legs; geese, six; pigs, four; old turkeys, two; young turkeys, eight; salmon, four; tongues and udders, twelve; ducks, fourteen; fowls, six roasted; fowls, boiled, nine; roasted chickens, thirty; stewed chickens, twelve; fricassed chickens, eight; chickens in pottage, ten; lamb, two sides; wild fowl, twenty-two; pigeons baked, roasted, and stewed, one hundred and eighty two; roasted hares, ten; fricassed hares, six; hams, three.” Such was the *dinner*. For *supper* there were roast mutton, two pieces; mutton in collops, two pieces; roasted pigeons, twenty-six; hares, six; ale, sixteen gallons; rolls, an hundred; loaves, a hundred and twenty-four.

ed the church of St Baldred, and burnt the village of Tynninghame, in the year 941. " This, (says Chalmers,) is a very early notice of the kirk-town of Tynningham."

The manor and patronage of the church of Tynninghame came in after ages into the hands of the bishops of St Andrews; and seem, on the erection of the College of St Mary's, to have been conferred on that college. But how much soever that learned body may have been gainers by this liberality, the parishioners of Tynninghame appear to have gained little, for in 1565, a complaint was made by them to the General Assembly, that though they paid their tithes to the new college, neither word nor sacrament were dispensed among them. The tithes still belong to the college, but the lands and lordship of Tynninghame since the year 1628, and the patronage more recently, to the Earl of Haddington. All that now remains of the ancient church of Tynninghame, which had formerly the privilege of sanctuary, are two elegant arches of Anglo-Saxon architecture, between which is the cemetery of the Haddington family.

The church and manor of Whitekirk belonged to the monks of Holyroodhouse in the twelfth century. When Edward III. invaded East Lothian in 1356, the sailors who attended him robbed the church; a profanation which the canons of Holyrood, who resided there for the service of the Virgin, were unable to prevent; although she is said to have raised such a storm as to have made them repent of their temerity. Whitekirk (*Album fanum*) became a place of great resort to those who had faith in the efficacy of pilgrimages. It was under the pretence of repairing thither, in fulfilment of a vow for the safety of her son, James II. that the Queen Mother outwitted the unsuspecting Chancellor Crichton, who had the custody of the young King, by removing him clandestinely from the castle of Edinburgh, and conveying him to Stirling.

The church lands and barony of Whitekirk were in the year 1633 granted to the Bishop of Edinburgh, and on the suppression of that bishoprick, the patronage of the church fell to the Crown.

The present church of Whitekirk is a very venerable edifice, surmounted by a square tower, and lately put into excellent repair. It is ninety-six feet above the level of the sea, and is supposed to have been built before the end of the fifteenth century.

In the year 1761, the parishes of Whitekirk and Tynninghame were united, and since that period the congregation has assembled for public worship at Whitekirk. The situation is not inconvenient; none of the people are three miles from the church, and the greater

proportion within two. They are exemplary in their attendance on divine ordinances ; and it may be mentioned as an evidence, it is to be hoped, of their sense of the importance of the duty, that out of a population of about 1050, between 416 and 432 persons, have for several years past been annual partakers of the sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

Almost the whole population belong to the Established church. The very few families which at any time dissent from it are generally of the class of hinds, or farm-servants, and these, frequently removing from one parish to another, their numbers are constantly varying. The number of Dissenting families is 16 or 17.

The manse was built about forty years ago. The stipend consists of eighteen chalders of victual, ten bolls being of wheat, and the remainder of barley and oats, in equal proportions. The glebe is upwards of six acres, which, including L. 12, in lieu of the old glebe of Tynninghame, may be worth L. 30 a-year.

Education.—There are two parochial schools conveniently situated, and at present well taught, each schoolmaster enjoying the maximum salary of L. 34, 4s. 4½d. Their dwelling-houses are such as the law requires, but better accommodation seems desirable for teachers who have been students in a university, who hold so respectable a station, and are intrusted with so important a charge. Reading, arithmetic, and writing, are the branches commonly taught, few, comparatively, desiring instruction in the Greek, Latin, or French languages. The charge for teaching Latin is L. 2 per annum, for writing and arithmetic, L. 1, and for English alone 10s.—the average number of scholars in both schools being about 120. Each of the parochial schoolmasters may receive annually about L. 35 of school-fees. The people are in general alive to the benefit of education, and care is taken that the children of the poorest shall not be in this respect neglected.

Poor.—The average number on the roll for the last seven years is 20. The funds from which they receive aid are the interest of between L. 500 and L. 600, and the weekly collections at the church doors. We have been hitherto able, from private liberality, to avoid an assessment.

A scheme (which seems to have been afterwards abandoned) was proposed by the Justices of Peace of this county, in the year 1745, for erecting a public poor-house ; but it appears from the session book of Tynninghame, which was then a separate parish, that the session refused to accede to the proposal, as they had poor-

houses of their own, sufficient to lodge, and funds to maintain their poor. These houses, eleven in number, still remain, and are occupied by widows, who, together with their houses, get each of them a small allowance of coals. The ground on which the houses stand, and the gardens behind them, were originally given by the Earl of Haddington. There is generally more than one applicant when any of these houses become vacant; and there appears sometimes too great a willingness, even on the part of healthy, young, and vigorous persons, to obtain an establishment in the Widow's Row.

Fuel.—The principal families in the parish import their coal, the only species of fuel used, from Fife; it is conveniently landed at different places on the coast; and is preferred, though dearer, to that which is brought from Gladsmuir or Tranent; a distance of fourteen or fifteen miles. In consequence of the difference of price, however, the inhabitants generally supply themselves from the inland collieries. A ton of Fife coal, carriage included, costs at the centre of the parish about 16s. The same quantity from the nearest inland coal-hill would cost about 12s. The poor find their interest in picking up the broken and decayed branches in Lord Haddington's woods, to which they have at all times free access.

There are but two alehouses in the parish; and they are said to be necessary for the public convenience.

May 1835.

PARISH OF ATHELSTANEFORD.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. WILLIAM RITCHIE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—ATHELSTANEFORD is named from Athelstan, an English commander, who was slain here in a battle with the Scots about the beginning of the ninth century.* In the second volume of Camden's Britannia, there is the following statement:—"A little from Haddington stands Athelstanford, so named from Athelstan,

* Several hamlets, built in places much exposed to the wind, are named the Gowl, and sometimes Windy Gowl, which last is a reduplication. Of ancient names, we have the following, Congal-ton, Dongal-ton, Fingal-ton, and Fingal Street.

an English commander, who was slain with his men there about the year 815; but that this was Athelstan, the warlike King of the West Saxons, must be utterly denied, if we have any regard to the time and manner of his death." Tradition still points to the place, near the ford of the brook, where Athelstan fell and was buried.

Extent and Boundaries.—This parish is four miles in length, and about three in breadth, being on the south side somewhat irregular. In breadth it extends from the stream called Peffer, which divides it from the parish of Dirleton on the north, and reaches in one part to the river Tyne, where it is bounded on the south by the parish of Haddington. It is bounded by the same parish on the west, and on the east by the parish of Prestonkirk. The church and village of Athelstaneford stand near the middle of the parish,—three miles from Haddington, six from North Berwick, and nine from Dunbar; the two last towns being seaports. The village stands somewhat elevated, and commands an extensive view of the adjacent country, of the Frith of Forth, the county of Fife, the Bass Rock, and the Island of May.

Topographical Appearances.—The low lands of East Lothian have an undulating appearance; they are formed into large ridges, lying east and west, and sloping gently toward the sea. On one of these ridges stand the church and village of Athelstaneford. The surface of this parish exhibits considerable inequalities, the lower parts having most probably sunk down at an early period, and the rocky places, left almost bare, retain their ancient elevation. The columns of rock lying at a gentle slope, and in some places almost horizontal in the large knoll called Sydserf Hill, and some very remarkable appearances near Balgone, the property of Sir James Grant Suttie, afford striking indications that the low lands of East Lothian do not now retain their former elevation. It is certain the strata in most places in this neighbourhood have been greatly disturbed, and are seldom found in their natural state. The rocks in this parish are of whinstone and gray porphyry, the last of which is exceedingly hard. No limestone nor freestone has been found in this parish, and the coal, lying deep in the bowels of the earth, has not as yet been discovered, though various attempts have been made to find it. The quarries in this parish have produced nothing remarkable, except some beautiful specimens of rock crystal.

Meteorology.—The climate of East Lothian has changed greatly for the better within the last sixty years. About that period the air of this county was far from being salubrious, particularly in the low district, or north of the Tyne. At that time the lands were not laid dry, large stagnant pools were to be found in many places, field drainage not being practised, except in open cuts or furrows; and fevers and ague greatly afflicted the inhabitants. Many young persons were carried off by consumption, and a number of respectable families were greatly diminished, and some entirely swept away, by the prevalence of that disease. Since the beginning of the present century, fevers and consumption are far less common in this district, and ague has completely disappeared. The people now enjoy much better health than formerly, and generally arrive at a greater age. Three persons have lately died in this village at the age of ninety, another at the age of ninety-one. During the incumbency of the present minister, two women have reached ninety-five. These persons retained their mental faculties to the last, and died apparently without pain.

A considerable change of the atmosphere of this county in winter has taken place of late years, so much so, that we have had almost no frost in the lower district of this county until the beginning of January. Last season, 1834, we had, strictly speaking, no winter, the plough having been never arrested by the frost; and spring began early, accompanied with an agreeable and genial warmth. During that period the wind was almost always from the west, and the number of deaths in this parish was few, compared with what usually happens here at that season of the year. The heavy rains which visit this county are from the east and north-east, and these sometimes continue without intermission two or three days. Rain from any other point is of short duration. Formerly, dense fogs frequently spread over this county, particularly in the months of April and May, and would have remained two, and sometimes three days; but since the lands have been drained, that dense vapour appears less frequently, and when it comes, is of shorter duration. Whatever effect it may have on the human frame, it is favourable to the growth of plants. When this county is visited by a thunder storm, the thick and dark cloud generally appears first above the hills which separate this county from Berwickshire, and spreading wide, it either passes along the same range of hills to the eastern sea, or crosses the county by Gladsmuir, to which

it seems powerfully attracted, and enters the frith at Aberlady Bay.

Hydrography.—There is no river or considerable stream of water in this parish, except two brooks which run along the sides of the ridge which comprehends the parish of Athelstaneford. That on the north side is named the Peffer. It rises in a meadow in the lower district of the parish, and dividing itself into two branches, the one flows eastward and enters the sea, north of Tynninghame; the other moves slowly westward to Aberlady Bay. Each branch flows about five miles before its waters unite themselves with the sea. When the course of the Peffer was widened and deepened some years ago, several stag horns were found, about two and a half feet below the surface; and large oak trees have been oftentimes found imbedded in moss on the banks of that stream; and the farmers who discovered them told the writer of this account, that the trees were generally found with their tops lying to the south; for in this quarter the most violent storms come from the north and north-east. Before the waters of that district were confined and carried off by the course made for that purpose, the whole strath extending from Aberlady Bay to Peffer mouth near Tynningham, about eleven miles in length, was one continued morass, and anciently covered with wood, the habitation of wild beasts.* But the banks of that slow running stream are now converted into fertile corn fields. Before that improvement the valuable fields on both

* That a considerable part of the low lands in this part of the county was covered with wood in the thirteenth century appears from the history of the family of Livingstone of Saltcoats, in the parish of Dirleton. The whole line of the Peffer, including part of the lands of Fenton and Chapel, and stretching towards North Berwick Law, is said to have been at that time covered with wood, the den of wild beasts, and greatly infested with wild boars, one of which is said to have been of great size, and exceedingly destructive to those who dwelt in that neighbourhood. At that time fire arms were not used for defence, and the only way of attacking and destroying the ferocious beast, was with a spear, or sword, in hand. A reward was offered to any one who should destroy the monster, and the reward promised was a track of land extending from Gulan to North Berwick Law, or rather the right of pasturage for cattle on that district, which appears to have remained in common so late as the beginning of the last century, when these lands were divided by the Sheriff of the county, among those who had a servitude upon them. A man named Livingstone had courage to undertake, and strength to perform the enterprise. Having armed himself with a strong spear, and his right hand and arm shielded with a glove of thick leather, he encountered and killed the ferocious beast, and obtained the promised reward. When a division of the lands took place, the heirs of Livingstone got about four hundred acres of land in four separate parcels, the first commencing at Gulan, and the fourth being the farm of Hard-Rigs, which is bounded on the east by North Berwick Law. These four parcels, now distinct farms, still comprehend the estate of Saltcoats. The family of Livingstone of Saltcotes became extinct about the middle of last century, and when the household furniture was sold, the ancient spear and glove were found hanging in the garret of the mansion house, and were sold for a trifle to a gentleman of the name of Livingstone, then resident in Edinburgh.

sides of the stream were covered with water, at least during the winter season, and that fine alluvial strath rendered in a great degree unproductive; now they produce luxuriant crops. When the bed of the Peffer was deepened, marine remains were expected to be found in it, but nothing of that kind appeared, though the source of the stream is said to be not more than twenty-five or thirty feet above the level of the sea.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

About the middle of the thirteenth century, a branch of the ancient family of Frazer of Tweeddale possessed the lands of East and West Forton, in this parish, amounting to 1500 acres; for we find various grants made about that time, to religious houses in Scotland, by the proprietor of those lands, and in particular one donative was given to the brethren of the Cross Church of Peebles from the lands of East Forton, the value of which is known. The principal part of the revenue of the Cross Church of Peebles was given to the Duke of Queensberry at the Revolution 1688, and by him conferred on his second son, William Earl of March. Among other favours he obtained the grant by Frazer, of Forton, and that donative had been reckoned of so much value that it was named in the deed of entail of the March estate, and has descended to the Earl of Wemyss, the present proprietor. The particulars of that donative are as follows: Wheat 8 bolls; barley $16\frac{1}{2}$; rye $8\frac{1}{2}$; money Sterling L. 4, 16s. $3\frac{1}{2}$ d.

The same person, probably Barnard Frazer,* son of Sir Simon, the elder, gave a large meadow out of his lands of west Forton to the Abbey of Newbottle. At the Reformation, when church lands fell to the Crown, King James the Sixth, at his accession to the throne of England, conferred that meadow on his faithful servant Sir Gideon Murray. It forms a valuable farm of upwards of 200 acres, and is named Prora, the property of Lord Elibank. It is the only parcel of land in this parish that has remained in one family since the above-mentioned period.

One of the most valuable baronies in this parish is the barony of Drem, containing above 800 acres of fine land. In former times it belonged to the Knights Templars, where they kept a considerable establishment. The priest's house is still standing; and his garden adjoining, defended by a holly hedge, which is still in a vigorous state. The chapel, the greater part of which still

* Crawford's Lives of the Officers of State.

remains, appears to have been a small, but a neat structure ; and the burial ground attached is now converted into a fruitful garden.

Eminent Men.—The lands of Athelstaneford, 200 years ago, belonged to a gentleman named Hepburn. When General Leslie's army were encamped on the west of Haddington, near to Gladsmuir, before the battle of Philiphaugh, Hepburn of Athelstaneford, attended by his five sons, paid a visit to the General at his camp ; and Leslie was so much struck with the appearance of one of the sons, that he offered him a commission in his army, which was readily accepted. Young Hepburn conducted himself in the Scottish army with propriety and courage ; and when peace was restored to Scotland, Hepburn, fond of the military profession, entered the service of Gustavus of Sweden, received the honour of knighthood from that sovereign, and was made Colonel of the Scottish Brigade. Afterwards, he went into the French service, and died a field-marshal of France. The Memoirs of Sir John Hepburn is a scarce but interesting narrative.

Mr John Walker, who possessed considerable property in this parish, is celebrated as the person who first introduced the system of fallowing land, and of thereby raising wheat crops far more extensively than formerly. He was a person of great intelligence and enterprise, and set an excellent example of superior farm culture to his neighbours. He was descended from the family of Walker of St Fort in Fife, and flourished about the time of the Revolution. He was great great-grandfather to Sir Francis Walker Drummond of Hawthornden, Bart.

The Rev. Robert Blair, author of *The Grave*, was fifteen years minister of this parish, and was buried in this churchyard, where a monument is erected to his memory.*

* A young gentleman, now a minister of the Church of Scotland, walking one day, some years ago, in the minister's garden, which is separated from the churchyard, and particularly from the spot where the poet's ashes rest, only by the breadth of the garden wall, composed the following lines :

Hushed in the place of which he sung,
Is Blair's arresting solemn tongue.
This garden plot was once his room, †
Behind this wall is now his tomb.

There all is trodden under foot,
Here all is blossom, flower, and fruit,—
An emblem of what death may crave,
What genius rescues from the grave.

† The spot where the old manse stood is now part of the minister's garden ; and the room where the poet sat and wrote was called *The Grave*, so long as the old manse stood.

The late Robert Blair, Lord President of the Court of Session in Scotland, a gentleman distinguished no less for his private virtues than for his high attainments as a lawyer, and his unrivalled character as a judge, was a native of this parish, of which his father was minister. When but a boy, in the fourth year of his age, he had the misfortune to lose his revered father; but his education was carefully attended to by his excellent mother, and by his maternal uncle, William Law, Esq. of Elvingston, Sheriff of Haddingtonshire. Mr Blair died 1811, aged sixty-eight. His death was greatly lamented, and deemed a public loss.

Mr John Home, author of the Tragedy of Douglas, succeeded Mr Blair, as minister of this parish. He was ordained at Athelstaneford, 11th February 1747. Although he was ten years minister here, he never took up his residence in the manse. When at home he lodged in the village; but he had a very unsettled habit, generally moving from place to place, and living with his friends. He was a welcome guest at the houses of many of the gentlemen of East Lothian; and was exceedingly fond of gay company.*

Mr Archibald Skirving, distinguished as a portrait-painter, was a native of this parish. He pursued his studies at Rome for a considerable time with intense application, and rose to eminence in his profession. He was never afflicted with any bodily trouble

In this same spot, at such an hour,
He viewed the scene, and felt its power;
At this same hour, a saint in Heaven,
He feels o'er death the triumph given.

Charmed by thy verse, to court thy theme,
Cheered by thy Scripture borrowed beam,
Sweet Poet, may we fearless trust
To God our souls, to earth our dust.

* It appears that he was admonished by his Presbytery for being absent from his parish three months, 1755, without leave asked or given. His Tragedy of Douglas appears to have been performed for the first time in the month of December 1756; for, in January following, the Presbytery of Edinburgh wrote a letter to the Presbytery of Haddington, informing them, "That a gentleman of their number had attended the Play-house in Edinburgh, for a number of nights successively, during the representation of a profane play called Douglas, of which that gentleman was commonly reported to be the author; and that, as the scandal happened within the bounds of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, that body had thought themselves bound in duty to give regular intimation of the same to the Presbytery of Haddington." Before the Presbytery of Haddington could enter on this matter, Douglas had begun to be acted on the London stage, and Mr Home had set off for that city in the beginning of February, and did not return to his charge until 4th May that year. It does not appear, from the Record of the Presbytery, that any thing was done by the Presbytery relative to the letter from the Presbytery of Edinburgh, nor with respect to Mr Home's long absence from his charge; it being understood that, after the term of Whitsunday, he was to resign his charge; and this he did at a meeting of Presbytery held at Athelstaneford, 7th June 1757.

during his lifetime, and he died suddenly, when pursuing his usual exercise, having just completed the seventieth year of his age. His dust rests with that of his ancestors in Athelstaneford church-yard, where a marble monument is erected to his memory. "By simplifying the comforts of life, he rose to private independence," as one has said of him, and left considerable property to his relatives. For some years before his death, he kept a riding-horse, and lived more in the style of a country gentleman than of an artist. About that time his professional labours did not exceed one likeness in the twelvemonths, and its price was one hundred guineas. The time and labour he bestowed on his likenesses were great beyond what can be expressed. Had he painted for gain, he might have left a large fortune; but his great object in painting seemed to be to please his own fine taste.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers of this parish have been kept correctly since the beginning of last century, and are generally written in a fair hand. The register before 1688 is imperfect. The record of the Presbytery of Haddington commences at the first establishment of Presbytery after the period of the Reformation, is entire, and appears to have been correctly kept.

Modern Buildings.—The only modern building of large dimension in this parish is the mansion house of Sir David Kinloch, Baronet, of Gilmerton.

An old baronial mansion of large extent stands in this parish, formerly the residence of the Earls of Winton. Part of it is still inhabited, but the greater part is in ruins. It had been built in the form of a square: an excellent garden and fine bowling green are attached. The house had been defended by a strong wall, and on the north side also by a deep moat. George Earl of Winton in large gilt letters is still legible in the ceiling of the principal room.

Ancient Families.—Of the ancient families of distinction in East Lothian, whose ancestors swore fealty to Edward I. of England at Berwick A. D. 1296, there does not appear to be any now existing, and in possession of the lands they then held, except Brown of Colestone, the last branch of which family is the Right Honourable Christian Brown, Countess of Dalhousie.

It is perhaps not unworthy of notice, that the lands of East Forton, after passing into various families, are again in the possession of a lineal descendant of the renowned Sir Simon Frazer of Peeblesshire, whose eldest daughter was married to the ancestor of the

Marquis of Tweeddale, and brought with her a large accession of property. The present proprietor of the estate of East Forton, Sir Francis Walker Drummond of Hawthornden, Bart., being a lineal descendant of the noble house of Tweeddale, has the blood of Sir Simon Frazer flowing in his veins.

Antiquities.—When the road-man was opening a new quarry three years ago for metal to the roads, in the spot where Athelstan is said to have been buried, he and his men being engaged removing the stratum of earth which covered the rock, found a stone coffin containing the remains of a human body in a very decayed state. Part of the cranium was not decomposed; a considerable part of the under jaw remained, and the enamel on the teeth was surprisingly white, considering the length of time the body had been buried. The coffin was but two and a-half feet below the surface. It was formed of five handsome freestones,—one at each side of the body, one at the head, another at the feet, placed at right angles, and one for a covering. The stones forming the coffin had been cemented together with a fine paste made apparently of clay, to prevent the admission of the external air. A cavity had been cut in the surface of the hard rock, six feet two inches in length, thirty inches in breadth, and four in depth, in which the body had been laid, and where it was found. The stones that formed the coffin rested on the sides of the cavity on a bed of fine clay. Nothing was found in the coffin but what has been stated. An intelligent mason examined the stones, and was of the opinion that no freestone of the same quality as that which formed the coffin has hitherto been found nearer to Athelstaneford than at the distance of eight miles. The under jaw and coffin of the warrior are in the possession of Sir David Kinloch, the proprietor of the estate of Athelstaneford.

History records that the lands on which the battle of Athelstaneford was fought and won, were given by the King of the Scots to the Culdee Priory of St Andrews, as an acknowledgment of gratitude to Heaven for the victory obtained. At the Reformation, when monkish institutions were abolished in Scotland, these lands were conferred on the Chapel Royal of Holyroodhouse, with which they are still connected, and form a considerable part of the income drawn by the present dean or deans of that venerable fane. The late Sir David Kinloch, Bart. of Gilmerton, obtained from the Crown a perpetual lease of these lands at the following rent:—

HADDINGTON.

D *

35 bolls ditto. Kain fowls: 1 dozen of hens, 2 dozen of poultry or chickens. The rent is doubled for one year at every singular succession of the family of Kinloch of Gilmerton.

On the barony of Drem are the remains of a Pictish town, situated on the top of a low hill, of a conical form, which is almost level on the summit, and which contains about two acres of land. The houses, the foundations of which are still obvious, had been built round the sides of the summit in regular rows, and the greater part in a conical form. In the centre are the foundations of oblong houses of larger dimensions. The conical houses are generally twelve feet in diameter within the walls. The town had been strongly fortified,—first by a deep circumvallation, and higher up the sides of the hill by three ramparts quite perpendicular; from the top of the one rampart to the bottom of the higher there is a level space of eighteen feet, from whence the inhabitants could defend themselves with great advantage from their assailants. On the west side of the hill, looking towards Edinburgh, are three deep trenches in succession, before coming to the first circumvallation. These out-works appear to have been raised on account of a small Roman station in that direction, about half a-mile from the Pictish town; for several Roman implements have been found there, and two years ago a large urn of superior workmanship, containing calcined bones, was found in the same spot. The name of the farmstead is commonly called Captain-Head, which is evidently a corruption for Camptown Head. The urn is in the possession of Mr David Skirving, farmer, of Camptown Head. The lands belong to the Earl of Hopetoun.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish amounted at last census to 931; at present it amounts to 951. Of these, twelve are Dissenters, but during the last thirty years the number of Dissenters have seldom exceeded one for every hundred of the inhabitants. The native inhabitants of the parish are sober, industrious, and well behaved: The strangers amongst us are less so, with some exceptions.

The number of families in the parish is	212
chiefly employed in agriculture,	132
in trade, manufacture, or handicraft,	46

There is but one family of independent fortune resident in this parish, and the whole lands belong to the following persons of distinction. Sir David Kinloch, Bart. 18 ploughgates; Earl of Hopetoun, 13 ditto; Earl of Wemyss, 7 ditto; Sir Francis W. Drummond,

Bart. of Hawthornden, 11 ditto; Sir Alexander Hope, 6 ditto; Lord Elibank, 3 ditto; Miss Grant of Congalton, 2 ditto.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—This parish consists of somewhat more than 4000 acres, 3750 of which are arable. The remainder is planted with wood, except 40 acres of hill pasturage. The writer of this account has not been able to ascertain the value of the whole agricultural produce of this parish; but he can state that the quantity of wheat produced in it annually is about 4000 quarters.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The old church of Athelstaneford was built about the middle of the twelfth century by Ada, daughter of the Earl of Warenne and Surrey, and wife of Henry Prince of Scotland. She built and endowed an Abbey in the neighbourhood of Haddington, and gave the church of Athelstaneford to that religious establishment, to be served by its monks. She survived her husband twenty-six years, and like her father-in-law, King David I., left various proofs of her attachment to the church. She died, according to Lord Hailes, A. D. 1178, and in the 13th year of the reign of her son William, surnamed the Lion.* The church she built here, part of which is still standing, continued the parish church until the year 1780, when a more suitable one was built. It is not inconveniently situated for the inhabitants, and contains about 500 sittings.

The manse was built about the same time, and affords sufficient accommodation for the minister's family.

The glebe land consists of five acres, and is worth L. 15 per annum.

The stipend is fifteen chalders of victual, consisting of 116 bolls of barley, 116 bolls of oats, and 8 bolls of wheat, Linlithgow measure, payable according to the highest fiar prices of this county. When the present minister obtained an augmentation of his stipend a number of years ago, he asked of the Court a larger proportion of wheat, that being the kind of grain chiefly raised in this parish, and as there is a considerable portion of tithe wheat still unappropriated; but the Judges, with the exception of the late Lord Meadowbank, refused to grant the request. The minister receives also an annuity of L. 1, 8s. left by the late Mrs Hepburn of Monk Rig, who died about 180 years ago.

When the last Statistical Account of this parish was published,

* The barony of Athelstaneford was part of Ada's dowery lands.

the number of Dissenters is stated to have been thirty-four. Dissenters are not numerous within the bounds of this Presbytery, except in those parishes where the inhabitants cannot find accommodation in the parochial churches. The people in general are regular in their attendance on Divine ordinances, and decent in their deportment. The number of communicants is about 385, and sometimes 400.

Education.—There are three schools in this parish. The parochial school is in the village of Athelstaneford, and the schoolmaster has received a liberal education. The branches taught at this school are English, writing, arithmetic, geography, and the Latin and French languages. The schoolmaster's salary is the maximum; he is well accommodated with a house and garden, and the school room is one of the best within the county. The school fees are fixed at a low rate, and the number of scholars during winter and spring are between eighty and ninety, and they are in summer about seventy.

There is another school in this village established by the heritors for girls, taught by a woman, who instructs them in the first principles of the English language, and in needle-work. The number of young persons who attend this school is about twenty.

The Earls of Hopetoun have, for more than a century past, established a school on their lands in this parish, at which the common branches of education are taught. The schoolmaster has about L. 10 of salary, and a house and garden; and the number of his scholars is generally thirty-five in summer, and sixty during the winter.

In all these schools the principles of the Christian religion are carefully attended to. Lord Hopetoun's schoolmaster has been wont to keep a Sunday school in that part of the parish where he is settled, and a school of the same kind is kept in the village of Athelstaneford.

The people of this parish give their children the common branches of education taught at the parochial school; and although there be an influx of strangers at every Whitsuntide, yet the minister is not aware of any in this parish above six years old but have been taught to read. The kirk-session pay for the education of orphans, and a benevolent lady who resides in this parish pays for the education of those whose parents are in mean circumstances.

Libraries.—A parochial library was established here about thirty years ago; and the people are also well supplied with Mr Samuel

Brown's Itinerating libraries, presently consisting of 2600 volumes, in forty three divisions, each division remaining a year at one station, so that there is no want of books to them who are disposed to read.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There never had been any assessment for the ordinary poor of this parish until a few months ago. The receipt of money from the weekly collections at the church doors, what is received for the use of a hearse, under the management of the kirk-session, and for mortcloths, have, with some savings previous to 1770, been adequate to supply the wants of the parochial poor. The people are regular in attending the church, and liberal, according to their circumstances, in giving to the poor; and it is for these reasons chiefly, that assessments for the support of the poor had not been found necessary in this parish until 1835. The kirk-session disburse to the parochial poor about L. 130 annually. Thirty years ago, when the present incumbent was settled here, the number of poor on the roll was almost the same as at present, but the monthly allowance to each is about one-third more now than it was then.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

At the time the last Statistical Account was published, the farms in this parish were too small, and a number of the farmers had not sufficient capital to carry on improvements. Grazing was not then practised to any considerable extent, and this prevented a proper rotation of crops. A large portion of the land was wet, and no proper means had been taken to lay it dry. The feeding of sheep and cattle on turnip was not then much practised, a great part of the land being unfit for that kind of crop. An improved mode of drainage has now greatly altered and ameliorated the soil; so much so, that a large extent of land in this parish formerly unfit for turnips, now bears weighty crops of that valuable root.

The present farmers are intelligent and skilful in the line of their profession, and the far greater part of them are doing every thing that wisdom joined with prudence can suggest for the improvement of their possessions. Nine-tenths of the land of this county being under entail, the improvements in agriculture which East Lothian exhibits, have arisen not so much from encouragement given by the landlords, as from the spirit and enterprise of the farmers. Drainage, however, when well executed, being deemed a permanent improvement, many of the landlords now show a readiness to bear a fair proportion of the expense of that

undertaking. Drainage, which ought to be one of the first improvements in agriculture, is now the crowning work in that department in this district of the country ; and whilst it does honour to the proprietors and possessors of the soil, it is, as has been observed, diffusing an increase of health and comfort among the inhabitants.

The working classes in this parish are sober and industrious, and generally well behaved ; they are lodged in comfortable houses, and their gains are equal to the maintenance of themselves and the education of their children. They are generally well qualified to perform the kind of work they undertake, and the male part display considerable knowledge and skill in rural affairs. To these topics, however, their knowledge is in a great measure confined. On the subjects of sacred history and religion their knowledge is very limited, particularly those of them who are somewhat advanced in years, and this ignorance arises from the want of religious instruction in youth. But the younger part of this class of the population is better educated and more intelligent than the aged, and the rising generation promises progressive improvement. This change is to be ascribed to a better educated and more efficient class of parochial teachers. It has been often found that a marked difference exists between the inhabitants of those parishes where the clergymen visit and catechise their parishioners annually, and where the youth have the benefit of Sunday schools, and the people of other parishes, where these advantages are not enjoyed. An intelligent, moral, and religious population, is an object so pleasing to a rightly constituted mind, and so advantageous to the interests of all, that it may well excite the ministers of the Gospel and instructors of youth, to increased diligence in their vocations, as they must be aware that their perseverance will be followed with the happiest results.

May 1835.

PARISH OF STENTON.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. D. LOGAN, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of the parish is of Saxon derivation ; it was originally Stanton, Scotice Stanetoun. The parish was supposed by some to have been so called from parts of the adjacent lands abounding in small stones, but more likely from the proximity of an excellent freestone quarry, and the cottages in the village being built of that material, earlier than those in the surrounding neighbourhood.

Extent.—The low and populous part of the parish extends to about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from north to south, and to about 3 from east to west. It is bounded on the north by parts of the parishes of Prestonkirk and Dunbar; on the east by Spott; and on the west by Whittingham. A portion formerly insulated from the rest stretches into the Lammermoor, to the distance of about 8 miles from the church, and is bounded on the south by the Whitewater, and Berwickshire. By the late division of the Dunbar common, however, and the allotment of portions thereof to the landed proprietors in the parish, the line to the southern extremity is now nearly unbroken, and this line includes Spartledown, the highest peak on the Lammermoor range, at the base of which on the south, points of the parishes of Spott, Cranshaws, Longformacus, and Whittingham, come so near to that of Stenton, that inhabitants of each parish might almost hold converse with one another from their respective parishes.

The height of the parish above the level of the sea is about 180 feet. The climate is salubrious, and before the woods were protected, Pressmennan, where there is still an old mansion once inhabited by a branch of the Beil family, used to be a place of resort to invalids for goat's whey. Instances of great longevity are not uncommon here. Within these few years, one person died having

very nearly completed her hundredth year, and two considerably above 90 in the immediate neighbourhood.

Hydrography.—Springs abound in many parts of the parish, and the water is generally very cool, and of the best quality. There is one near the village called the Rude-well, covered by a circular stone building, surmounted by the form of a cardinal's hat, and there is a legend that the tenure of the Beil estate depends upon the keeping on of this hat.

Into a deep ravine there issues from the base of a high hill a most magnificent spring of the purest water. About the year 1819, William H. Nisbet, Esq. built a breast-work, on the east, where two opposing hills begin to slant down into more level ground. A most beautiful lake, about two miles in circumference, was hereby formed. Trout were brought from Lochleven, at considerable trouble and expense. The experiment succeeded, and along with tench and carp, they are now caught in abundance and great perfection. As the hills surrounding the lake are undulating and finely wooded, the scenery has been compared to parts of the Rhine. A Mr Hamilton, cadet from the Belhaven family, and a Lord of Session, took the title of Lord Pressmennan, from this place. So attractive is the scenery in summer, that party excursions to sail on the lake, dine under the shady tree, and drink from the living spring, are frequent.

Soils.—Clay, from the more stiff and tenacious to the loamy, predominates; although there is also a considerable breadth of light turnip soil. The latter generally abounds with small stones.

Botany.—Mr Street, gardener and florist at Beil, has naturalized or acclimatized the following exotics, which not only live but flourish on the Beil terraces: *Coronilla valentina*, *C. glauca*, *Cactus flagelliformis*, *C. opuntia*, *C. strictus*, *Mimulus glutinosus*, *Coronilla juncea*, *Phormium tenax*, or New Zealand flax, *Calla Ethiopica* producing ripe seeds in pots, *Eucomis striata*.*

There is a cedar of Lebanon in the Beil grounds, one of the largest in Britain. It was brought in a flower-pot from London, by the anti-unionist Lord Belhaven, and planted about the beginning of the last century; girth 14 feet, height about 60 feet, expansion of branches from trunk 90 feet, drop from do. in circumference about 200 feet.

* Mr Street has not only been successful in his attempts to naturalize exotics; but is also well known to horticulturists, as possessing very considerable science in his profession.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Principal Land-owners.—Mrs H. N. Ferguson of Dirleton and Belhaven is patron and proprietor of about nine-tenths of the parish; J. B. Sydserff, Esq. of Ruchlaw, William Hay, Esq. of Hopes, and Sir J. Suttie, Bart. are also heritors.

The Beil estate came into the Dirleton family by intermarriage. Hence the Nisbets prefixed *Hamilton* to their name. Soon after the death of the late Mr Nisbet, Sir J. Nisbet of Dean resigned all claim to the estate of Dirleton, and the two properties are therefore now united.

The late Mr Nisbet, after the death of his mother Mrs Hamilton, added greatly to the mansion-house at Beil, from a plan by Atkinson; and extended the range along the face of the bank on which the building stands to about 500 feet. In a series of about seven years, nearly L. 40,000 were expended. The addition harmonizes well with the ancient structure. There are three tiers of flower terraces to the south, which are always kept in the best style, and greatly admired, at the base of which flows a beautiful stream. In the interior there is a fine variety of marbles fitted up, as side tables, &c.; also a few good pictures by the best masters. Altogether the mansion is one of the most splendid to be seen in any country. It is unique from the terraces; and the correct taste of the late proprietors, Mr and Mrs H. Nisbet, every where discovers itself.

As the old church was very inconvenient, Mrs H. N. Ferguson with a liberality peculiar to herself, proposed to the other heritors to assess them at the rate only of L. 900 for a new church,—she giving a much larger sum if they would allow her to adopt that plan which she might prefer. This was readily agreed to. The design was by Burn, modern Gothic, with a magnificent tower; no galleries; the pulpit in the centre, and the family seat opposite. There is accommodation for 400, about 70 more than the law requires. It cost above L. 2000; and was opened by Dr Chalmers, October 4, 1829.

Parochial Registers.—These begin in 1669, and have been pretty regularly kept.

III.—POPULATION.

The population has varied very little from time immemorial.

According to Dr Webster	-	-	631
the former Statistical Account,			624

And what is very remarkable, a unit makes up the difference of the three last census.

1811,	-	-	-	-	686
1821,	-	-	-	-	685
1831,	-	-	-	-	686
Males,	-	-	-	-	320
Females,	-	-	-	-	366

The disparity in the number of males and females probably arises from a number of young men leaving the parish in search of employment; and the young women remaining as outworkers,—in which occupation a good many single women, householders, are employed, who receive 9d. every day they are called upon to work, with 600 yards of potatoes planted, coals driven, &c. for their yearly service.

The number of families in the parish is	-	-	-	151
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	92
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	29
Average of baptisms about	-	-	-	14
marriages,	-	-	-	6
deaths about	-	-	-	12

Poaching in game is beginning to shew itself, from the strict system of *preserving* recently adopted by the surrounding landed proprietors. This, along with night watching in the game season, is not favourable to the improvement of morals.

During the last three years there have been six illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The population is purely agricultural, with only its proportional accompaniment of carpenters, masons, blacksmiths, &c. The country weaver was formerly one of these accompaniments, but he has now almost disappeared. About twelve years ago there were no less than nine in the parish, whereas now there are only two; and were it not that spinning is given out at Beil to the old women, these two would not be half employed. This change in the domestic economy has operated injuriously on in-door industry, and is the cause why many a bride is unprovided with gear of this kind at the time when the nuptials are celebrated.

Agriculture.—

Under tillage about	-	2000 acres.
wood about	-	400
permanent pasture	-	500
moor do.	-	unknown.

Rent of Land and Produce.—Average rent per acre, 7 bushels wheat = 2537 quarters; ditto at second fiars, wheat L. 2, 9s. per quarter; rental of the parish, about L. 7105.

It is calculated that of the portion of land under tillage one-half is annually in corn. Average produce per acre, wheat 4 quarters;

barley 6; oats $7\frac{1}{2}$; beans 4; = an average of 4 quarters 3 bushels per acre.

Produce.—

Gross produce per annum, 5775 quarters,	-	-	-	L. 8072	10	0
Turnips, one-sixth of the whole that is under tillage, at L. 6 per acre,	2000	0	0			
Grass do. pastured or made into hay,	-	-	-	2000	0	0
				<hr/>		
Gross annual produce,	-	-	-	L. 12072	10	0
This of the part only under tillage.						
Permanent and moor pasture, wood, &c. may yield in addition about	3000	0	0			
				<hr/>		
				L. 15072	10	0

Rate of Wages—Hind's Boll.

Oats, 12 old bolls,	-	-	L. 10	10	9
Barley, 3 do.	-	-	3	14	3
Pease, 2 do.	-	-	1	7	0
Cow kept,	-	-	6	0	0
Potatoes planted, 1200 yards,			2	12	0
In lieu of keeping hens,	-	-	0	15	0
			<hr/>		
			L. 24	19	0

Day-labourers 9s. per week, bondagers, 4s. 6d. but not employed every day,—only at call of the master.

Husbandry.—Tyle draining, lately introduced, promises materially to improve tenacious soils. Bruised bones and rape-dust render the distant farmer almost independent of dung as a manure. Cattle likewise at two years old are brought to the same perfection, with regard to weight and fat as formerly at three. Altogether a great impetus has lately been given to agriculture in all its branches. Landlords are too enlightened not to see it to be their interest to give every encouragement to the tenantry; and Mrs. H. N. Ferguson takes the lead in all that is liberal.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Dunbar is the nearest market-town, distant about five miles.

Villages.—Stenton and Petcox. The latter for ages gave the name to the parish. In olden times it was a rectory, and a Mr Cockburn, the rector, was the first Protestant minister of Haddington. He does not seem to have been a zealous Protestant, however; for in 1564 and 1565 he was complained of for absenting himself from the General Assembly. In Bagimont's roll, the Rectory of Petcox is rated at L. 2, 13s. 4d.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church stands near the west boundary of the parish, and not very convenient for a part of the population. All the sittings are free. The manse was built in 1783, and repaired in 1820, having been struck by lightning. The glebe is $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres in extent. Rent 9 quarters wheat at second fiars. Sti-

pend 17 chalders, half barley, half oats, excepting 8 bolls wheat. Communion elements, L. 8, 6s. 8d.

About one-eighth of the inhabitants are Dissenters, who go to Dunbar and East Linton. The collections for religious purposes may average about L. 10 annually.

Education.—There is only one school in the parish, but all the children are within reach either of it or schools in the surrounding parishes. All are taught to read. Above one-sixth of the population are regularly receiving both week-day and Sabbath tuition. All the usual branches are taught. The salary is the maximum; the fees amount to about L. 40 per annum. Reading per quarter 2s. 6d. and other branches in proportion.

Libraries.—There is one parish library and two itinerating.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society has lately been instituted.

Poor.—Average number who get regular assistance, 16; occasional ditto, 5; average annual allowance, L. 4, 5s. There has been an assessment for upwards of thirty years. It varies at present from L. 50 to L. 60 per annum. Collections and mortcloths, L. 21; interest on mortified money, L. 25. Precentor, beadle, &c. paid out of these funds. There is a growing disposition on the part of the poor to seek relief; aged parents wish to ease their children, and children to throw off parents. Still, however, there are many honourable exceptions.

Alehouses.—There are two alehouses in the parish.

Fuel.—Coals rate very high; 11d. per cwt. Carted from Pencaitland and Penston, or sea carried to Dunbar.

July 1835.

PARISH OF WHITTINGHAM.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN LUMSDEN, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, &c.—THE name of the parish is derived no doubt from the Saxon *Whit-ting-ham*, the dwelling on the White Mead. There are several places in England of the same name. The village and church of Whittingham stand upon the bank of a winding stream, which arises in the parish of Garvald, but is here called Whittingham Water. This parish formed two chapelries, which were subordinate to the church of Dunbar. The lower part of the parish was served by the chapel of Whittingham, and the higher part in Lammermoor was served by the chapel of Penshiel, and these two chapels formed two of the prebends of the collegiate church, when it was settled under that form in 1342.

Extent, Boundaries.—This parish extends in length from north to south 11 miles, and its mean breadth from east to west is 4 miles, and contains 44 square miles. It is bounded on the southwest by the parish of Garvald; on the west by Moreham; on the north by Prestonkirk; on the east by Stenton; and on the south by the parishes of Cranshaws and Longformacus, in Berwickshire.

Topographical Appearances, &c.—The figure of the parish is irregular. Its surface southward is varied and uneven, rising and falling gradually from the village to the foot of Stoneypath hill; from the top of which there is an extensive prospect of the German ocean, Island of May, the Bass rock, the Frith of Forth, the coast of Fife, and almost all the lower part of East-Lothian, and part of Mid-Lothian. The village, which is but a small one, stands on an elevation of about 360 feet above the level of the sea. The air is keen and the climate healthy, both in the lower part of the parish, and in that extensive tract of it among the Lammermoor hills.

Hydrography.—There are several excellent springs of water in the parish; and several salubrious streams run through both its lower and higher districts. The Whittingham water rises in the

parish of Garvald, and joining the Nunraw burn at the east extremity of that parish, flows in an easterly direction through a beautiful glen or valley, in a winding course, bending sometimes to the right bank and sometimes to the left bank, both of which are covered from the top to the bottom with the finest trees of various kinds. This stream runs through a beautiful and romantic glen, by Beil, Belton, West Barns, and falls into the sea at Belhaven. The Whittadder rises on the north-west point of the farm of Johnscleugh, and flows from the white well southward about three miles, and joins Fassenev water at Millknow. This last mentioned stream rises on the eastern part of Westhope's farm, in the parish of Garvald. The Whittadder having received this addition at Millknow, rolls on in a south-east direction, till it falls into the Tweed four miles above Berwick.

Geology and Mineralogy.—In the parish of Whittingham there are several excellent quarries of red freestone, which have been wrought to great extent. The Fassenev water, in Lammermoor, will ever be a spot peculiarly interesting to the geologist, from the appearance which it presents. It is well known that the extensive range of mountainous country called the Lammermoor hills extend across the whole island, from the east sea to the west. It consists of a series of transition rocks, especially greywacke. It is obvious, that, however high their situation is at present, they must have once been laid at the bottom of the sea, and must have been raised up to their present situation by some immense expansive power from below, and which not only gave their elevation but their inclination, which in the whole range is almost vertical. It is not improbable that this has been effected by a mass of granite under them. Granite, it is generally admitted, appears either in mass, or in veins from it. The granite here is in mass; but, so far as I know, it has never been discovered, as thrusting its veins into the superincumbent schistus.

The appearance that it makes here is equally interesting both to the Wernerian and the Huttonian, each maintaining that it affords a confirmation of their respective theories. The Wernerian holds that granite is of the oldest formation of rocks, supporting all others. The Huttonian, on the other hand, maintains that it is a rock varying in age, consequently alternating with Neptunian rocks of different epochs. The Wernerian, of course, affirms that it owes its origin to water, the Huttonian to subterranean heat. But its present elevation and inclination could not have been produced by water, but

by some igneous force below. And the point of difference here is, whether this granite is stratified or not; and Dr Hutton was of opinion that no granite is stratified, for if so, this he imagined would set aside his theory. His disciples, however, differ somewhat from their master in this. And his acute and learned illustrator, Mr Playfair, and the scientific Sir James Hall of Dunglass, admitted that granite was to be found stratified, or in masses of great size, with seams in it; yet, if it might be called stratified, it was very different from other rocks having this name.

The granite in Fassenev water has certainly some appearance of stratification, or of being divided by seams of considerable thickness. And Mr Playfair affirms, that, though it was not admitted by Dr Hutton in his theory, yet he was of opinion that it does not oppose that theory in the smallest degree. Geologists may examine and judge for themselves. Upon the banks of this stream iron and copper ore have been found; a small piece of the former was presented to Dr Hope many years ago. The writer of this has a small specimen of each of them in his possession.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The Earls of March held their Baronial Court at Whittingham. In 1363, Patrick Earl of March granted to Alexander de Rieklinton the half of the lands of Spot, which Sir Alexander Ramsay had resigned, “in plena curia nostra apud Whytingeham.” In 1372, George Earl of March gave in marriage with his sister Agnes, to James Douglass of Dalkeith, the manor of Whittingham, with the patronage of the chapel, when Whittingham and Penshiel became a separate parish from Dunbar, which estate and patronage the Douglasses of Dalkeith possessed about 190 years.

In October 1564, Queen Mary granted to James Earl of Morton, who represented the Douglasses of Dalkeith, all their estates, with the barony of Whittingham, the castle and mills, and also the advowson of the church of Whittingham, and the Queen’s grant to that unworthy servant was ratified by Parliament the 19th day of April 1567.*

The next historical event which here occurred respects the murderers of Darnley, King of Scotland. It appears from history that the scene of this dreadful treason was laid in the castle of Whittingham. Part of this ancient building is still inhabited. Morton had just returned home from England, where he had been expatriated for the murder of Rizzio, being now pardoned by the

* Vide Caledonia.

Queen ; here he met the Earl of Bothwell to concert the murder of Darnley, during the first week of December 1566.

Morton, being accused and tried for his share in the King's murder, was openly convicted by an impartial jury of his countrymen, and finished his guilty career on the scaffold, for the very deed of which he had unjustly accused his Queen, who had so often pardoned his crimes and loaded him with favours. The night before his execution, being examined by the ministers of Edinburgh, he with his dying breath confessed his guilt.

It appears that Lethington, as well as Archibald Douglas, was present in Whittingham at the time referred to, persuading Morton to take part with them in the King's murder. And no doubt remains that he yielded to their importunities. *

The Earl of Morton was forfeited in 1581 ; but James VI. soon returned the traitor's estates to his family, which were possessed by them for a considerable time, till at length the estate of Whittingham passed to more worthy proprietors. For early in the seventeenth century, Viscount Seton of Kingston, married the daughter of Sir Archibald Douglas, who succeeded her father as heiress of Whittingham, by whom he had eleven children, six sons and five daughters. Both Archibald, the second Viscount Kingston, and James, the third Viscount, having died without issue, the honours became extinct. The Honourable Lady Elizabeth Seton, the youngest of the family, having survived all the rest, became heiress of Whittingham. She was married to the Honourable William Hay of Drummelzier, second son of the first Earl of Tweeddale, in the year 1695, as appears from the parish register of marriages : and by this marriage came into the possession of the estate of Whittingham and Stoneypath Tower. They had a numerous and highly respectable family of sons and daughters. The Hays of Drummelzier were long the proprietors of Whittingham. They were accounted most excellent landlords, —were highly esteemed by their equals,—and revered and beloved by their tenants in every county where they had property. Their representatives still retain the same amiable character. This estate was sold in the year 1817, to James Balfour, Esq. second son of John Balfour, Esq. of Balbirnie.

Land-owners.—The principal proprietors of this parish now are, James Balfour, Esq. of Whittingham and Papple, Lord Wemyss,

* *Vide* Morton's confession, in Richard Bannatyne's continuation of Knox's History, and in the Appendix to Crawford's Memoirs.

the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Haddington, Captain Buchan Sydserff, of Ruchlaw, Andrew Houston, Esq. of Mayshiel, Mrs H. Nisbet Ferguson of Beil, and Miss Dalrymple of Hailes. The two last mentioned have each but a small possession in the parish.

James Balfour, Esq. the principal proprietor of this parish, has built a splendid mansion upon the south bank of the Whittingham water, of Grecian architecture, delightfully situated, and commanding a view of the country towards the sea. It is surrounded by beautiful plantations tastefully laid out. Through the adjacent grounds, a variety of beautiful walks are interspersed, and, what seldom happens in other places, they have always a dry bottom, both summer and winter, and are so planned and contrived, that on some of them, it is very easy at any season to find shelter from the wind and the storm. Towards this elegant edifice of Whittingham House, there are three magnificent approaches,—one from the east, one from the south, and one from the west.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest entry in the parish register is 1626. There have been some part of it lost; but it has been kept pretty regularly for the last ninety years.

Antiquities.—Upon the Marquis of Tweeddale's estate of Priestlaw, at the south-east extremity of the parish, there is the appearance of a strong encampment, all the parts of which are still entire, as described in the former Statistical Account of this parish. This camp is of an oval form, with the broadest end, which is inaccessible, toward the north. On one side are four ditches parallel to each other, and the distance betwixt each is about twelve yards. On the north side are three ditches, and the outer one is carried round the whole. The circumference of this ancient military work measures about 670 yards.

Part of the Castle of Whittingham is still in good repair, and is inhabited. It bears evident marks of great antiquity. There is another old building upon this estate called Stoneypath Tower, which was occupied in the year 1414, by James Douglas, designed of Roberton, who got it from his father James Douglas, the first Lord Dalkeith. It seems to have been strongly fortified both by nature and by art. A considerable part of its lofty walls are still standing. These estates seem to have been united and in the possession of one owner prior to the period in which Queen Mary be-

stowed the barony of Whittingham on the Earl of Morton in 1564, as mentioned above.

The ruins of the baronial residence of Penshiel are still visible. The pend or arch of one wing of the building is still standing. The chapel of Penshiel stood below the house in a glen still called Chapel Haugh. There seem to have been a good many buildings about it. It is not certain whether any religious services have been performed in it since the Reformation.

There are also the ruins of another religious house in this parish on the estate of Papple; but at what period it was erected, or when it was demolished, is not now known. About twenty feet of the height of one of its walls are still standing, covered over with ivy. A story concerning it has been handed down from father to son, to the present time. There was a religious house at Friardykes in the parish of Stenton, to which the refractory priests from Melrose were occasionally banished; and betwixt the inhabitants of that place and Papple House, there was a frequent intercourse. A servant of one of the monks at Friardykes had by accident become aware of the murder of one of the nuns at Papple by the monks; but not knowing that his master was concerned, communicated to him the discovery. The master thereupon takes measures to secure a similar fate for the servant himself; and the tradition bears that this was prevented by M. De Lisle, the proprietor of Stoneypath Tower, discovering the purpose of the master in a letter which the servant was carrying from him to the master of the house of Papple.

III.—POPULATION.

In the former Statistical Account, it is said, that in 1755, the number of inhabitants in this parish was 714. In 1821, it was 750; in 1831, 715. This decrease of 35 persons was owing to the principal resident heritor's family being in London at the time when the list was made up, and also on account of several houses in the village having been taken down.

Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	196
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	107
in trade and handicraft,	-	-	-	-	20
other families,	-	-	-	-	9
Number of unmarried men, bachelors, or widowers upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	-	26
women, including widows, upwards of 45 years of age,	-	-	-	-	29
The average number of births for the last seven years,	-	-	-	-	14
of deaths,	-	-	-	-	7
of marriages,	-	-	-	-	6
The number of persons at present under 25 years of age,	-	-	-	-	249
upwards of 70 years of age,	-	-	-	-	18

Character and Habits of the People.—They are in general cleanly in their houses and persons, orderly and decent in their behaviour. Most of them attend regularly on public worship, and show a proper respect for the solemn ordinances of religion. There is only one public-house, which, as it is well regulated, has no bad effect upon the morals of the parishioners.

During the last three years, there have been four illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—

Number of imperial acres cultivated or occasionally in tillage,	3958
never cultivated or in pasture,	16500
under wood,	215

The greater proportion of the lands are enclosed with ditch and hedge, and in some places with stone dikes. The soil on the south side of Whittingham water is inferior to that on the north side. A part of the former division is of a light and sandy soil, and some of it poor clay; however, there are several fields even here of a rich fertile good turnip soil. Upon the north side of the water, the soil is of a superior quality, some of it is a deep rich loam, capable of producing as rich crops, when the season is favourable, as any land in the county.

There are six large farms in the upper part of the parish among the Lammermoor hills; part of some of them is arable, and in favourable seasons yields tolerable crops. The sheep grazed in this extensive district amount to about 270 scores, which, besides other profits, yield about 800 stones of wool. There are few black cattle fed here. The rental of these six farms is about L. 900. Two of them were let for three nineteen years leases and a lifetime.

The modes of husbandry generally followed in the lower part of the parish are the following: On a rich clay soil a rotation of seven shifts, viz. fallow, wheat, grass, grass, oats, beans, wheat; on a poor clay soil a five-shift rotation, fallow, wheat, grass, grass, oats; on rich turnip soil seven-shift rotation, turnips, wheat, or barley, grass, grass, oats, beans, wheat; on a poor turnip soil five-shift rotation, turnips, barley, grass, grass, oats.

Rent of Land.—In the lower part of the parish the maximum rent is L. 3, 10s. and the minimum L. 1, 10s. per acre, Scots. As some of the farms are now let at a grain rent, the average cannot be exactly ascertained. The rent for the grass of an ox or

cow is betwixt L. 3 and L. 4. The real rent of the parish is about L. 7596.

The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Produce of grain of all kinds	-	-	L. 13466	0	0
potatoes, turnips, and hay,			2068	0	0
land in pasture,	-	-	1696	0	0
thinning of woods,	-	-	45	0	0
			<hr/>		
Total yearly value of raw produce,	-	-	L. 17275	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

There is only one village in the parish, from which, to the nearest market-town, Haddington, is a distance of six miles ; Dunbar is seven miles distant from Whittingham. The roads through this parish are no less in extent than thirty miles. There are 57½ ploughgates in the parish, and each pays L. 2 for keeping these lines of roads in proper repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated on the north side of Whittingham Water. It was built in 1722, and was repaired and made very commodious (though still rather small) in the year 1820. It can only accommodate about 350, though it should contain 476. There are usually about 270 communicants. The greatest part of the population reside to the westward of it,—some of those, in the Lammermoor district, being ten miles distant from their parish church. The manse was built in 1765, and is still in good order. The glebe, garden, and ground occupied by the manse and offices, contain 6½ acres of good ground. The stipend was augmented in 1829, to 16 chalders of victual, half oats, and half barley, and L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion element money. The number of families attending the Established church is 133 ; of Dissenting or Seceding families, 3.

Education.—The parochial school is the only seminary in the parish, the master of which has the maximum salary, L. 34, 4s. 4d. : and his school fees may amount to L. 27 per annum. He has also about L. 14 a-year from other sources. The average number of scholars is 75. There are no persons in the parish above six years who cannot read, nor above ten who cannot write, or are not learning to do so. There are about 50 Sunday scholars.

Poor.—The number of persons on the poor list at present is 17 (old persons,) and 12 (children, who cannot yet support themselves.) The old persons receive from 15s. per quarter, to L. 1, 5s.,

the children get 8s. 6d. per quarter each. The total amount distributed among the poor, young and old, is about L. 88, 8s. annually, besides house rents to some, and occasional supplies to others, in time of distress. The sums for the support of the poor are raised by assessment by the collections at the church, which amount annually to about L. 15, and by proclamations of marriage, and by mortcloths, and by L. 4 of interest of money mortified by the late Alexander Hay, Esq. of Drummelzier, once the patron of this parish. The assessment for this year amounts to L. 70. Out of the session funds, the session-clerk, the precentor, and officer, are paid small salaries. The patron of the parish occasionally sends donations to the minister for the support of the industrious poor, not on the list, who may stand in need of some temporary supply; and his lady benevolently distributes among them coals and clothes annually, as their necessities require.

The receiving of parochial aid is here now reckoned no degradation. Many demand it as a legal right; and instances are not uncommon of active young men in good circumstances, who do not think it incumbent on them to supply the wants of their aged parents, but who without scruple, consign them to the support of the parish.

May 1835.

PARISH OF DUNBAR.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND Tweeddale.

THE REV. JOHN JAFFRAY, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE richest part of East Lothian, which is the finest corn district in North Britain, is the parish of Dunbar. The name is evidently derived from the castle, which had the same appellation, and stood on a lofty rock within sea-mark, dividing equally the length of the parish. This castle, according to Hollinshed and Buchanan, was conferred by Kenneth I. of Scotland, about the year 835, upon an eminent warrior, whose name was Bar,—hence it was called *Dun-bar*; but it is much more probable that this ancient hero took his name from the castle, and that the word is descriptive of the object and its situation, and signifies, both in British and Gaelic, according to the learned author of Caledonia, the fort on the height, top, or extremity.*

Extent, Boundaries, &c.—The parish consists of a royal burgh and a landward district. The former is near the castle, to which it owes both its name and existence. The latter stretches along the coast from east to west, 7 miles, 6 furlongs, and 160 yards in length, and from south to north 3 miles, 6 furlongs, and 70 yards in breadth. The mean length is 6 miles and 6 furlongs, and the mean breadth 1 mile $5\frac{1}{3}$ furlongs,—which gives $11\frac{1}{4}$ square miles of extent. It is bounded by the parishes of Tynninghame and Prestonkirk on the west; Stenton and Spott on the south; Innerwick on the east; and the German ocean on the north.

Topographical Appearances.—The figure is very irregular, being much indented both by the sea and by other lands. The coast to the east of the castle is of low rocky ledges, and to the west it is of craggy cliffs, which are lost under the sand of the beautiful bay of Belhaven. The surface presents a pleasing variety of hill and dale, ascending gradually from the sea towards Lammermoor—commanding an extensive prospect which embraces a great variety of striking objects,—St Abb's Head, Traprain-law, the beautiful woods

* Chalmers, Caledonia, ii. 406.

of Tynninghame, the Bass, the May, and the boundless ocean. The highest ground is Brunt-hill, which is 700 feet above the level of the sea: near to which, on the march, is Downhill, which is 580 feet above the level of the sea, and is famous as the place where Leslie encamped previous to the battle afterwards noticed.

Hydrography.—The land is naturally so dry, that it would be difficult to find a spring on the surface. The water which supplies the town is brought two miles in leaden pipes from St John's well, in the parish of Spott,—which well is 200 feet above the sea.—The difference between high and low water is 18 feet.—There are four streams which wind their way from the hills, and run through the parish into the ocean,—the Tyne, which separates Dunbar from Tynninghame,—the Belton water, which, after running through the old parish of Belton, joins the sea at the old port of la Belle Haven,—Broxburn which gives its name to Broxmouth Park, and joins the sea there,—and Dryburn water, which is the eastern boundary.

Geology.—The rocky formations are all of the secondary class, and upon the coast they are laid bare, as if on purpose to attract the notice of the geologist. The strata are either horizontal or inclined, and at particular places nearly vertical. The direction is N. E. and S. W. and the dip is to the S. E. From the eastern march west to the inlet of Broxburn, these rocks are grayish, and at some places yellowish sandstone, stratified and nearly horizontal, with numerous superincumbent beds of bluish gray limestone. One of these calcareous rocks east of Catcraig is a bed of petrified shells; and another of them, on the west of the same place, is petrified coral, and resembles masses of worms. There is a boulder east of the Vault, and another on the west, both just within flood-mark, and not belonging to the neighbouring rocks, but of granite formation. West of the said inlet, is a narrow bed or dike of porphyritic basaltic greenstone. Here the grayish sandstone disappears, and the place is occupied by red sandstone, more inclined, and at places nearly vertical. Next in succession is a rock of greenstone, of red coloured trap tuff, and of red conglomerated sandstone. These rocks are marked with beautiful mountain-green spots and they fill up the space right on to the harbour, which is cut out of a thick bed of red-coloured trap, which Professor Jameson calls an iron shot porphyritic greenstone,—the columnar structure of which is visible all around, but particularly on the north-west side of the battery. These columns are either pentagons or hexagons, but not of equal sides, having one large and one small, and the rest nearly equal. They are jointed, but not so regu-

larly as those in the Island of Staffa, having convex ends answering to the concave bottoms of the incumbent joints ; and they are neither in horizontal nor vertical layers, but are formed of an hundred concentric circles like the coats of an onion, and, what is still more peculiar, they are intersected by a thousand jasper veins as small as horse hairs, traversing but not intercepting one another in all directions. The septa of red and white sparry matter fills up the space between them, and they are pervaded transversely by veins of the same matter. Such is the external and internal formation of these basalts, which resemble the Giant's Causeway in Ireland, and are considered a great natural curiosity. Under these pillars, is a bed of red-coloured trap tuff resting upon sandstone, succeeded by lofty rugged rocks of the trap series, upon which the vestiges that remain of the ancient Castle of Dunbar are founded. Here the softer rocks have yielded to the perpetual motion of the waters, while the more compact remain, forming large caverns and rugged arches,—through which the tide rushes with impetuous fury, presenting a grand spectacle at all times, but awfully sublime during a storm. West of the castle, is a tract of sandstone, through the centre of which a mass of trap rock called the “doo rock” rises to a considerable height, and not being hid by debris, it may fitly be compared to the skeleton of a mountain in miniature. Craggy cliffs of trap rock continue onward until they are succeeded first by cliffs, and then by ledges of red and white sandstone, which disappear under the sand of Belhaven bay.*

Soil.—The general character of the soil is a rich brown loam, having a substratum of clay or gravel of great depth resting, to the west of Belton water, upon trap; and from that water to Broxburn, upon a tract of red sandstone, which runs west through the county; and from that stream east, upon limestone, corresponding with the rocks upon the coast. Coal has been found here at several places, but not of sufficient thickness to be wrought. It abounds west of Haddington, and also directly opposite in Fife; and as Dunbar is in the same basin, there is a great probability that workable seams exist

* The Fox man-of-war was unfortunately stranded off Dunbar in 1745, and there went to pieces. The wreck remained under water above thirty years, when a violent storm laid a part of it bare, and several masses, consisting of iron, ropes, and balls were found on the Belhaven sands, near the place, covered over with a very hard ochry substance, of the colour of iron, which adhered thereto so strongly that it required great force to detach it from the fragments of the wreck. Upon examination, this substance appeared to be sand, concreted and hardened into a kind of stone. In a paper upon the subject by Edward King, Esq. and published in the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, he concludes, “that there is on the coasts of this island, a continual progressive induration of masses of sand and other matter at the bottom of the ocean, somewhat in the same manner as there is at the bottom of the Adriatic sea.”

here also. Mr Hay is just now boring for that mineral on his estate of Eastbarns. The work is conducted by a regularly bred miner, and the public-spirited proprietor has permitted me to copy the journal as below : *

Botany.—The dominion of the plough is here so universal, that this is not a favourable situation for the botanist. It is difficult to determine what are the plants peculiar to the soil, but the following are not common, and have their habitats in the parish : *Aspe-*

* Strata.	Depth.		Strata.	Depth.	
	Fect.	Inches.		Fect.	Inches.
Gray freestone bands,	4	4	Brought up,	199	8
1. Coal,	0	2	Gray parting,	0	3
Blue metal,	9	11	Blue metal,	2	4
White freestone band,	0	4	White freestone,	14	5
Blue metal,	1	6	6. Coal,	0	7
White freestone,	0	10	Gray freestone,	3	0
Gray freestone band,	24	8	Red freestone beds,	4	0
Blue metal,	8	4	Ironstone,	0	9
White freestone,	0	6	Red freestone beds,	3	0
Soft blue metal,	5	8	White freestone,	0	8
Limestone,	2	3	White freestone,	1	4
2. Coal,	0	3	Red Hill parting,	0	4
White freestone,	5	0	White freestone,	2	0
Blue metal parting,	0	2	Red freestone,	0	8
White freestone,	3	4	White freestone,	2	0
Blue metal parting,	0	3	Red Hill parting,	0	8
White freestone,	5	11	White freestone,	6	4
Blue metal parting,	0	4	Red Hill parting,	0	8
White freestone,	3	6	White freestone,	6	6
Blue metal parting,	0	7	Red Hill parting,	0	6
3. Coal,	0	5	White freestone,	6	9
White freestone,	4	6	Red freestone,	1	0
Blue parting,	0	4	White mixed with red,	21	0
Gray freestone,	7	5	White freestone,	2	8
Blue parting,	0	5	Red freestone,	1	6
White freestone,	2	5	White freestone,	2	0
Blue parting,	0	3	Gray freestone,	0	9
Black metal,	3	6	White freestone,	3	10
White freestone,	2	11	Red freestone,	1	6
4. Coal,	0	7	White freestone,	9	0
White freestone,	0	9	Red freestone,	1	1
Gray freestone,	2	10	White freestone,	4	0
Blue metal,	8	0	Red Hill parting,	0	6
White freestone,	25	6	Gray mixed with white,	4	6
Blue metal,	1	6	Red Hill parting,	0	6
5. Coal,	0	10	White and gray mixture,	6	6
White freestone,	0	6	Red Hill parting,	0	3
Gray freestone,	7	0	White and gray mixture,	5	6
Red Hill,	1	6	Red Hill parting,	0	3
Red freestone,	12	6	White and gray mixture,	4	6
Gray freestone parting,	0	6	Red Hill parting,	0	3
Red freestone,	27	0	White and gray mixture,	5	6
Hard freestone beds,	9	3	Red Hill parting,	0	3
Ironstone,	0	9	White and gray mixture,	3	0
Gray freestone parting,	0	3	Red parting,	0	6
Red freestone bed,	0	5			
Carry up,	199	8	Total depth,	336	0

rugo procumbens, among the ruins of the castle; *Eryngium maritimum*, by the sea coast; *Trifolium scabrum*, dry pastures by the sea; *Epipactis palustris*, marsh near Dunbar; *Verrucaria maura*, basaltic rocks at Dunbar; and *Menyanthes trifoliata*, marshes at Broxmouth. The following Algæ are found on the rocks and coast of Dunbar, *Lichina minor*, *Lichina confinis*, *Alaria esculenta*, *Rodomenia laciniata*, *Sphærococcus laciniatus*, *Ceramium cirrosum*, and *Fucus loreus*.

Trees.—There are scarcely any plantations but such as adorn the houses of proprietors. The land is considered too valuable to be laid out in that way, and the farmer has but little fancy for that kind of produce. He prefers a well-dressed hedge to the innumerable rows of brushwood which in England occupy at least a tenth part of the soil. At Broxmouth, there are many stately well-grown trees of all kinds, and at Belton there are lofty silver firs about two hundred years old, and a magnificent beech tree which, three feet from the ground, measures 18 feet 6 inches. The timber is tough, weighty, and of excellent quality.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is a history of Dunbar by Mr James Miller, a useful and meritorious work; it was published in 1830.

The origin of parishes in North Britain, says Chalmers, cannot be traced beyond the ninth century. The time when Dunbar was established is unknown; but, from the circumstance of its being the most valuable parish in Lothian, it is probable that it was one of the first formed in that district. It is distinguished for its fertility and cultivation, and it derived all its ancient importance from the castle, which was accounted the principal key of the kingdom.

The lands of Dunbar and the eastern marches were conferred by Malcolm Canmore, in 1072, upon Cospatrick Earl of Northumberland, a princely nobleman, who fled from the wrath of William the Conqueror, into Scotland, and there had a long succession of potent and warlike descendants, who were created Earls of Dunbar and March, and held the same possessions till they were forfeited in 1435. The castle rendered Dunbar the theatre of many warlike exploits. Twice it was the field of very deadly strife: In 1296, when the whole force of Scotland collected for the relief of the castle, were defeated in battle with great slaughter, by Earl Warrene, the English Commander, who was sent to press the siege: And again in 1650, when Cromwell defeated Leslie on the same

ground. "It is a sad reflection," says Chalmers, "that it was of little importance to a harassed people whether the fanatical Leslie or the miscreant Cromwell should prevail."* The first of these actions is here called the battle of Dunbar, the other the battle of Downhill.—During the civil war in 1745, Sir John Cope landed his troops at Dunbar, where he was joined by two regiments of dragoons: he marched thence towards Edinburgh, and was ingloriously defeated in the battle of Preston.—In 1779, the famous Paul Jones lay off Dunbar several days with five ships, and alarmed the inhabitants, who prepared to defend the town.—In 1781, the American Captain Fall, another sea adventurer, tried to carry off a vessel from the mouth of the harbour. This led to a brief and decisive action: three shots were fired on each side, and one of them from the shore was so well directed by an old skilful seaman, that it nearly carried away the enemy's mast, and made him change his purpose. To defend the town and harbour against such assaults, a battery was erected in the same year, of sixteen guns,—which at the general peace were removed to Edinburgh.—When an invasion of the French was dreaded, it was believed that a landing might be attempted at Belhaven bay; to guard against which an encampment was made in 1803 on West Barns Links, under the command of General Don, a very active officer; and thereafter barracks were erected west of the castle for 1200 infantry, and at Belhaven for 300 cavalry. Dunbar was distinguished for its loyalty, and could boast of a corps of volunteers, and a troop of yeomanry cavalry collected from the parish and neighbourhood, equal to any in the kingdom.

Burgh.—Buchanan mentions Dunbar so early as the year 856, when it was burned by Kenneth King of Scotland. It has evidently grown up under the protection of its castle. It was of old surrounded with a wall, had three posts or gates, and its principal street is regular and spacious. It was created by David II. a free burgh, with limits as extensive as the earldom of March, with a market cross, with power to buy and sell, with a coquet and trone, and with a free port at la Belle Haven. Its privileges were afterwards confirmed and extended by several royal charters. In one of the last of these charters, dated "apud palatium nostrum de Halyrudhaus, 1 Mar. 1603," King James VI. confirmed to the provost, bailies, and community of Dunbar, the charter of David II.—a charter by King James II., dated 16th May 1445,—a charter

* Caledonia, ii. 426.

by Mary Queen of Scots, dated 18th June 1555,—and another charter by the same Queen, dated 31st March 1567; and defined the boundaries of the burgh according to a decision of the Court of Session, dated the 21st June 1569.

A representative from Dunbar was admitted into the Scottish Parliament; but since the Union, it unites with Haddington, North-Berwick, Jedburgh, and Lauder, in sending one member to Parliament. The town was entirely burned in 1548, by the English army which Henry VIII. sent to punish the Scots for refusing to allow the marriage of their young Queen with his son. It is governed by a Provost, three Bailies, a Treasurer, and fifteen Councillors. Its annual revenue is upwards of L. 1300 Sterling, derived from property and imposts.

Eminent Characters.—Columba Dunbar was Dean of the Church of Dunbar in 1411, when he was promoted to the see of Moray.

Thomas Hay, Dean of Dunbar, was, in 1532, appointed a Senator of the College of Justice.

Andrew Wood, Rector of Dunbar, was in 1676, promoted to the Bishopric of the Isles, and continued to hold it by dispensation. He was translated to the see of Caithness, which he held till his episcopate was abolished at the Revolution. He died at Dunbar at the venerable age of seventy-six.

George Home of Manderston, Lord High Treasurer of Scotland under James VI., by whom he was, in 1605, created Earl of Dunbar, died at Whitehall the 29th January 1611, and was buried in the Old Church of Dunbar. A splendid marble monument, superior, it is said, in sculpture to any thing of the kind in Scotland, was erected to his memory: it is still preserved in the present church, and is 12 feet broad and 26 feet high. It is alleged that the Earl was attached to the prelatic form of worship; and accordingly, he is represented at full length, clad in armour, kneeling on a cushion, with his prayer book open before him. His supporters are two knights in armour; and above, on the one side stands Justice, and on the other Wisdom. There are other appropriate figures and devices, and the whole is crowned with the arms of Home.

James Kirkwood, Rector of Astwick, in Bedfordshire, was born in the parish, and educated at the schools of Dunbar. He bequeathed in 1708, curiosities, books, and papers to the Presbytery of Dunbar, giving an account of his endeavours, in conjunction with

the Honourable Robert Boyle, in disseminating the Irish Bible throughout the Highlands of Scotland.

Patrick Carfrae, D. D. was translated from Morham in 1795, to the church and parish of Dunbar. He was perhaps the most eloquent and accomplished preacher of his day. It is well known that such was the opinion of a very competent judge, the late Lord Liverpool, who was a regular hearer in the church of Dunbar, when stationed here with his regiment. Doctor Carfrae possessed in a high degree all the requisites of an orator; and was one of the brightest ornaments of the classic age which is gone by.

A family of the name of Fall established themselves at Dunbar, and became during the last century the most extensive merchants in Scotland. They were long the chief magistrates of the burgh, and preferred the public good to their own profit. They have left no one to bear their name, not even a stone to tell where they lie; but they will long be remembered for their enterprise and public spirit.

Chief Land-owners.—The Duke of Roxburghe;* Sir George Warrender of Lochend; Robert Hay, Esq. of East-Barns; Captain Hay, R. N. of Belton; General Hardyman of Heatherwick; Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ferguson of Ninewar; William Sandilands, Esq. of Barnyhill; John Allan, Esq. of Links, &c. Most of the estates of these land-owners have long been in possession of their families respectively.

Parochial Registers.—Their earliest date is 1658. They have been regularly kept, and are not voluminous. The burgh register of sasines begins in 1620, the register of dispositions in 1737, and the council books in 1656.

Antiquities, Castle, &c.—The ruins of the castle form a remarkable antiquity. They are particularly described by Sir Walter Scott in his Provincial Antiquities, and Grose has preserved two views of them. Founded upon a lofty rugged rock within the sea-mark, and connected with a battery on the adjoining land, by a wall through which there is a covered passage, this castle was so strongly fortified both by nature and by art, that before the invention of gunpowder it was deemed impregnable. The date of the buildings is unknown; but they are evidently the work of different ages. Several of the towers communicating with the sea gave it great advantages over inland forts. Being conferred on Cospa-

* The estate and mansion of Broxmouth belonging to the Dukedom are liferented by Mary Duchess Dowager of Roxburghe.

trick, it was the principal baronial residence of his descendants, and afforded the means of enabling these warlike lords to maintain power and authority, little less than royal, through a long succession of rude and turbulent ages. In 1296, the eighth Earl of that family, adhering to the English interest, his wife Margory Comyn surrendered his Castle of Dunbar to the Scots, when Edward I. sent Earl Warrene to press the siege of this important place, which led to the battle of Dunbar. Edward II. after his defeat at Bannockburn in 1314, sought refuge in this castle, and went from thence by sea to Berwick. The ninth Earl razed his castle of Dunbar, that it might not fall into the hands of the English, and was obliged by Edward III. to rebuild it at his own expense. It was often besieged, and as often bravely defended; but perhaps the most brilliant period of its history was about 1337, when it was defended by Black Agnes against the Earl of Salisbury. In 1434, George the eleventh and last Earl of Dunbar and March, was for his father's treason disinherited of his estates and seignories, which, with the hereditary castle of Dunbar, passed to the Crown, and were given to the Duke of Albany.

Jane Seymour, dowager of James I. the most beautiful and accomplished woman of her age, died in the Castle of Dunbar in 1446, and was buried at Perth. The Duke of Albany, on his flight from Edinburgh Castle in 1475, landed at his Castle of Dunbar, and proceeded thence to France. He returned and regained possession of this castle, and was compelled to fly from it a second time in 1483, when he left it in the hands of the English, who surrendered it to James III. in 1486. An act of Parliament passed in 1488 directs the Castle of Dunbar to be cast down and utterly destroyed, in such manner as to render it incapable of repairs in time to come, "because it has done great skaith in time bygone, and it were great danger to the realm if it were negligently kept in future." This act was not carried into effect till nearly a century afterwards.

Four times did this stronghold receive within its walls the unfortunate Queen Mary. In 1565, after the assassination of Rizzio, she fled to it that she might be safe from the conspirators; and in the same year Bothwell, who had assisted her escape, was appointed its keeper. The Queen and her court on a tour along the Tweed by Berwick arrived at this castle on the 17th November 1566, and remained there six days. After the murder of Darnley in 1567, Bothwell's guilty associates having recommended him to Mary for a husband, he marched at the head of a thousand horsemen, ar-

rested the Queen at Almond Bridge, and carried her forcibly with her principal attendants to this castle, where he kept her twelve days imprisoned. One short month after her union with Bothwell, Mary was compelled to fly first to Borthwick, and next, disguised as a page, to Dunbar Castle, where she collected forces from Lothian and the Merse, and marched to Carberry hill; there she joined the insurgents, and Bothwell deserted returned to Dunbar Castle

“ With shame and sorrow filled,
Shame for his folly; sorrow out of time
For plotting an unprofitable crime.”

Bothwell's dependents shortly thereafter surrendered the castle to the Earl of Murray, Regent of Scotland; and in 1567 Parliament ordered it to be demolished, and the artillery carried to Edinburgh,—which was so literally executed some months thereafter, that nothing now remains of this important place of strength but the vestiges of its former grandeur. These are in many parts now so completely effaced that the antiquary may here give full scope to his imagination, and delight himself with rebuilding this ancient castle *in the air*.

Patrick the sixth Earl of Dunbar, in 1218, founded in this parish a monastery of Red or Trinity friars; part of the building is still standing in the Friars Croft. The lands which piety or zeal had given them, says Spottiswood, were transferred after the Reformation to George Home of Friarsland.

In 1263, the seventh Earl founded here a monastery of Carmelites or White friars; but no vestiges of it now remain. Some Roman medals inscribed *Judea captiva* were found, on digging the site of the reservoir: hence it was supposed to have been formerly the site of the Carmelite friary. There was also a Maison Dieu at the head of the High Street; but its pious founder is now unknown.

In Broxmouth Park, there is a small mound of earth where Cromwell stood (and which is still called Cromwell's Mount,) when, looking through a glass, he beheld Leslie's army descending from the hill, and exclaimed the “ Lord hath delivered them into my hands.”

In a sequestered spot, not far from the door of Broxmouth House, is a rough tombstone, having the name of Sir William Douglas rudely inscribed upon it; he was one of the Douglasses of Kirkness, a branch of the Morton family, and the only individual among the fallen in that battle who has been honoured even with such a frail memorial to mark the warrior's bed.

Modern Buildings.—There is a Gothic church, having its base 65 feet above the level of the sea, with a magnificent tower 107 feet 6 inches high,—forming a well known land-mark to the mariner. It

was designed by Mr Gillespie Graham ; and for accommodation, comfort, and chaste elegance, it is not surpassed. The burgh, by agreement, contributed one-fifth of the expense, and the heritors the remainder, according to their respective valuations. The church will long remain a proud monument of their liberality and attachment to the established religion of the land. There are also new Burgh schools. The Assembly Rooms built by subscription are erected in a bad situation. Dunbar House, where the Earl of Lauderdale generally resides, is situated within the Old Castle park, and has a very handsome front to the sea. Had it been placed near to the ruins of the castle, it would have had the most picturesque situation in the kingdom. Broxmouth Park is a modern mansion, sheltered from every wind, surrounded with hills and dales, woods, and waters, and every thing to render it a most desirable retreat. Lochend House is an elegant mansion in the Anglo-Gothic style, and is much admired for the chasteness of the building, and its commodious arrangements within. Belton House stands in a beautiful winding glen, embosomed among stately trees, and is finely sheltered, with its native stream gliding by. Heatherwick House stands on a gentle eminence, which is well wooded, and commands views of the surrounding plain, the town of Dunbar, Belhaven bay, and the extensive grounds of Tynninghame.

III.—POPULATION.

The ancient state of the population of the parish is involved in the same obscurity as the early history of the country. The Celtic British, according to Chalmers, are the first names on the map of Lothian ; the Saxon, the second ; the Gaelic, the third ; and the English, the fourth,—corresponding to the several successions of the colonizing people. It is probable that Dunbar, from its advantages, was one of the first selected settlements, and, from its name, that it was peopled by the first of these tribes. While the Earls of Dunbar were the sole proprietors of the parish, the population would consist of their retainers and followers ; and as the castle rendered it the theatre of perpetual strife, the inhabitants must have experienced greater changes than any other part of the Lothian territory. While different people contended for the soil, little attention was paid to cultivation, and the country was not populous.

In 1755, by Dr Webster's account, the population amounted to	3281
1792, by last Statistical do.	3700
1801, by census,	3951
1811,	4114
1821,	5272
1831,	4735

The census of 1831 does not include the seafaring persons belonging to the parish; and there were then in it 2174 males, and 2561 females. The great increase in 1821 was occasioned by an attempt to establish a cotton factory at Belhaven, which introduced about 500 persons, chiefly from Ireland; and by an influx of discharged soldiers and sailors. The decrease in 1831 was occasioned by the failure of the factory.

In a census taken by the minister in 1834, the population was . 4536

Resident within the royalty . . .	3217
Do do landward district . . .	1319

The yearly average for the last seven years of marriages is	31
births, .	34
burials, .	89

It should be noticed, however, that many parents do not register the births of their children; and that the period which the average embraces includes two years when the mortality was unusually great. There are 1109 families in the parish, and the average number of persons in each family is $4\frac{1}{11}$.

There are 30 proprietors of land in the parish of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

Character of the People.—They are quiet, peaceable, and industrious, remarkably civil and obliging in their disposition, generally well-educated, and have less peculiarity in their dialect than is to be found in most other districts. They are at all times well dressed, and their houses are clean and comfortable. The inhabitants of the town have an abundant and cheap supply of fish; and the hinds command milk and meal, pork and potatoes. The latter class being paid in kind have but one interest with the farmer and landlord; and they have borne the present depression without a murmur. When the Reform Bill agitated the country, their voice was unheard. Both the burgh and landward inhabitants are loyal and well affected to church and state, and are regular in their attendance on public worship. They enjoy in a great degree the comforts and advantages of society, and are perfectly satisfied with their condition and circumstances. The heritors most cheerfully concur in every measure beneficial to the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The parish is all arable, and contains 7197 acres. There is no evidence that Dunbar was ever wooded.

It is known that agriculture flourished in this district during the twelfth and thirteen centuries. Kings, nobles, and churchmen, then amused themselves with rural pursuits; but the monks were the most skilful cultivators. The Union in 1706 was the grand

era of agricultural improvement to Scotland, in which East Lothian had the honour to lead the way; and nowhere is cultivation better understood and more perfectly executed than in this parish. The soil and climate are excellent; limestone and sea-ware, two powerful agents in the hands of the tillers of the ground, are here in superabundance; and there is a ready market for all kinds of produce. The farmers are respectable, skilful, and enterprising, and spare neither pains nor expense in availing themselves of their great natural advantages; and their labours are annually crowned with an abundant crop of the "finest of the wheat." The lands of East Barns, belonging to Robert Hay, Esq. produce an average of 14 bolls of wheat per acre, for a succession of years.

Rent of land, &c.—The valued rent of the parish is L. 16,953 Scots; the real rent in 1792 was L. 8000 Sterling; in 1823, L. 23,405. Annual revenue of the burgh in 1792 was L. 500; in 1834, L. 1362.

The highest rent, in the best times, was L. 8, and the average from L. 5 to L. 6, per Scots acre. When prices fell, these rents were generally converted into grain on the principle of a boll of wheat for every L. 1, 18s. of rent; but were still payable in money, at the rate of the fiars. The highest rent at present is L. 5, 5s. per Scots acre; near to the town, L. 6 per imperial acre. The average rent at present is L. 3, 10s. per Scots acre.

Rate of Wages.—The annual wages of a hind are, 66 bushels of oats, 18 bushels of barley, 8 bushels of beans, 4 bolls, or 48 cwt. of coals, L. 2 Sterling, a cow's grass and winter keep, 1500 yards of land along a drill for potatoes, 1 bushel of wheat for stacking and sowing, one month's meat in harvest, with a house and garden; for which he must furnish a shearer twenty days. The wages of a female servant are L. 3 the winter term, and L. 3, 10s. the summer; a worker, 10d. per day, summer and winter; a labourer, 9s. per week; a carpenter, 2s. 6d. per day; a mason, 2s. 9d. per day. Smith and carpenter work is all done by contract. A double horse cart fully mounted with narrow wheels costs L. 12; do. with broad wheels, L. 14; an iron plough fully mounted, L. 4; a pair of iron harrows fully mounted, L. 3, 15s. and upwards, according to weight; upholding a pair of horses with cart, plough, and harrows by the smith and carpenter for a year, L. 6, 15s. Lime costs 1s. 6d. per boll imperial measure.

Cattle.—Corn being the staple produce here, very little stock of any kind is bred. On a farm of 500 acres, perhaps but one cow is kept by the farmer. The soil is rich. Breeding, it is said, will not pay.

The soundness of this opinion may at any time be questioned, but particularly at present, when the price of grain is so low. Great numbers, both of cattle and sheep of all kinds, are brought here to be fed; and as the green crops partake of the richness of the grain, it is perhaps the best feeding district in the kingdom. Cattle must be well fed, indeed, if a Dunbar farmer cannot improve them. Notwithstanding the high character of the short horns, judicious farmers assert, as the result of their experience, that the west Highland cattle, which either are, or retain the character of, the primitive breed, have the greatest aptitude to fatten and yield the largest return. One thing is certain, that when full fed their beef is most prized by the epicure.

Husbandry.—The soil being dry, it is easily pulverized, and cleared of rooted weeds; therefore, there is comparatively but little fallow. The rotation of crops is, 1. Turnips upon two or more ploughings dunged, and generally fed off; when carried off, a compost of lime and earth is generally applied. 2. Wheat, with clover and rye-grass seeds. 3. Grass, fed off with cattle or sheep. 4. Potato oats. 5. Beans drilled and dunged. 6. Wheat. Instead of oats, wheat is sometimes taken, and then the rotation is confined to four crops. This course, peculiar to the parish, has been called the Dunbar system; but objections have been made to it. Wheat, every second year, it is said, exhausts the soil; the answer is, that the food of plants in the soil may be exhausted by any kind of crop, while the soil itself cannot be exhausted. Where there is a command of manure, there is no system which will so richly repay the labours of the husbandman. It was adopted here, on one of the best farms, for many years, without any diminution either of quantity or quality; and in order to ascertain whether soil is injured by frequent crops of wheat—the glebe of Dunbar was properly dressed either with sea-ware, street-dung, or soot, and cropped with wheat, for five successive years. The result was, an extra crop every year, and the land left in such a condition that it may produce a crop or two of any kind without additional manure. The least crop in the succession was, on the third year, $10\frac{1}{2}$ bolls per acre; it promised to be the greatest, but it was lodged flat, as the surface soon after it came into ear. All the other crops in the succession were above 12 bolls per acre. One season, exactly suited to the soil, there were $16\frac{1}{2}$ bolls per acre; and the last of the five years, crop 1834, there were 14 bolls per acre. It was ascertained, that, on each of three of these years, there were more than 300 stones of straw per acre. The soil is a sandy loam. There is another field in the parish which has produced oats four successive years with

increasing produce and fertility. Hence it seems to follow that land properly cultivated and manured may produce abundantly the same kind of crop in regular succession. If the food of plants is exhausted in exact proportion to the weight of crop produced, it is worthy of investigation whether the advantage of changing the kind of crop does not arise from one kind giving off food for another kind, but solely from the different modes of cultivation which different kinds of crop admit of at different seasons.

Varieties of wheat have been recommended; but where the soil and climate are good, the kind most prized, both by the skilful miller and baker, is the white wheat from Kent and Essex. Some of the best growers there import seed from America; the produce of which has been tried here. It grows freely, has a tapering stalk, yields well, has plenty of straw, is eight days earlier, and brings the highest price in the London market. The grain of wheat in its wild state is a very paltry seed. It has been raised to its present plump state by cultivation; and by a little attention the process of improvement might be accelerated. The author has found, from experiments, that ears and even grains of wheat reproduced their like; hence, by a judicious selection of either, better and more prolific kinds than any hitherto in use might be obtained.

The duration of leases is generally nineteen years. Farm-buildings have here long been constructed after the most approved plans. The land is all inclosed either with stone dikes or thorn hedges; the latter are regularly cleaned and neatly kept.

Thrashing of corn by steam is the greatest improvement which has lately been introduced here. The work is thereby done so completely, that, on a large farm, the whole outlay is saved the first year: the farmer is enabled to bring his corn to the market at any season; and there is a great saving of horses, to which the rotatory motion of the mill is most pernicious. Pillars, whereon to build the corn in the barn yard, should have been more generally introduced. Some individuals have them of stone, but cast-iron ones are the best. They have a cover with a turned down edge,—which renders them a complete defence against vermin. They admit a free circulation of air to the stacks, and the saving is beyond calculation.

If there be any thing to censure in this improved district, it is the careless manner in which the corn is cut. Some seasons, in such a soil and climate, the whole crop is ripe at once. The country is then deluged with Irish reapers, who on their way south are here hired by hundreds, and perhaps the whole crop is cut in eight

days. Some of these poor creatures appear never to have cut corn before, and they have no object but to remain their hours and to receive their meat and wages. The field is too often a scene of confusion ; there is neither a sufficient portion of work done, nor is it done in a workman-like manner. The corn being irregularly cut and laid in the sheaf, much of it is lost in working, and the irregular heads escape the mill in thrashing. Perhaps it is thought, that where nature has been bountiful, the fowls of Heaven and the poor have a right to their share ; but it is certain, that when the corn is led from the field, a gleaner will with ease collect a bushel per day. It is true, some farmers rake their fields ; but grain which remains on the ground is discoloured and injured ; and the best raking is clean-cutting. There are distinguished exceptions in the parish ; but the practice is too generally applicable to the district. It may safely be affirmed of the Dunbar farmers that they readily make trial of any thing that promises to be useful ; that there is amongst them a great deal of good-natured emulation ; and that they frankly communicate the results of their experiments. In short, so much has been done here, both by nature and by art, to render the earth productive, that perhaps there remains but little to carry husbandry to perfection.

Quarries.—Red freestone more or less compact abounds. There are also two quarries of gray limestone. The lime is very pure, very white, and forms a strong cement. Much lime for manure is carried from this quarter to Berwickshire. It is to be regretted that in this parish, where it abounds, it has not been so copiously applied for that purpose as it ought,—from a belief that the free nature of the soil does not require it ; whereas Sir Humphry Davy asserts, that “ all soils are improved by mild lime, and ultimately by quicklime, which do not effervesce with acids and sands more than clays.”

Fisheries.—White fish of all kinds and lobsters are caught off the coast. The cod are pickled, and sent to London ; the haddocks are smoked and sent chiefly to Edinburgh and Glasgow. The lobsters are preserved in pits cut out of the rock within sea mark, which are called bullies, and sent to London. In August and September, herrings of excellent quality are caught off Dunbar : some years, 300 boats have been so employed ; but of late, either the fish have not been upon the coast, or, what is more probable, the fishermen have not found them.

Raw Produce.—Wheat having fallen in price so much of late, a considerable portion of barley is now sown after turnips, in place of wheat, in the rotation above stated ; but supposing these two kinds

of crops to be equal in value, that will make no difference on the average gross amount of raw produce,—which, from the extent of land in the parish, and the rotation of cropping, may be calculated thus: Deduct from the whole parish 100 acres for roads and hedges, and 300 acres of *links*, which are not allowed to be ploughed, and then there will remain 6797 acres, which are either occupied as follows, or with some other produce equally valuable.

Turnips, 1133 acres at L. 6, 10s. per acre,	-	-	L. 7364	10	0
Wheat, 2266 acres, 32 bushels at 7s. 7d. per bushel,	-	-	27494	2	6
Grass, 1133 do. at L. 5, per acre,	-	-	5665	0	0
Oats, 1133 do. at 58 bushels per acre, at 3s. 1½d. per bushel,	10262	16	5½		
Beans, 1133 do. at 26 bushels per acre, at 4s. 1d. per bushel,	6014	6	10		
Links, 300 do at L. 1, per acre,	-	-	300	0	0
Lime, 18000 bolls annually, at 1s. 6d. per boll,	-	-	1300	0	0
Fish annually	-	-	800	0	0
Lobsters,	-	-	150	0	0

Annual amount of raw produce, L. 59,350 15 9½

The average of the grain is taken from the examination of Mr Brodie of Thornton Loch, before a committee of the House of Lords in 1814; and the price is the average of the Haddington fiars for the last seven years. Bone manure having enabled the hill farmer to raise turnips, their price has fallen in the low lands.

Manufactures.—The expectations formed of the flax mill erected at West Barns in 1792 were not realized; and the cotton factory established at Belhaven in 1815 was also a failure. Both of these undertakings were productive of loss to the parties concerned, and introduced many paupers into the parish. Such factories can only exist advantageously where numbers of persons in manufacturing employments are congregated together, and such a population and that of a rich agricultural district have never been found to harmonize.—There are two founderies here, which manufacture machinery of various kinds. Mr Sked, the proprietor of one of them, is celebrated for his steam-engines.—Dunbar was of old famous for its malt. It is equally so at present for its ale.

Navigation.—The same causes which have depressed shipping everywhere else, have affected that of Dunbar,—so that now it is not equal there to what it was in 1792, when there were sixteen vessels of 1505 tons burthen in all, besides two Greenland ships of 675 tons. At present there are eighteen small vessels, of only 1233 tons burthen in all, three of which are chiefly employed in foreign, and the others in the coast trade. The subjoined statements may give an idea of the trade of the port.

1. Number of vessels with cargoes that have entered inwards at the Custom-house, Dunbar, from *foreign ports*, in the year ended 5th January 1835:

Of vessels, 23 ; tons, 2310 ; men, 134. Amount of duties received on foreign goods imported in the year ended 5th January 1835, L. 2942, 15s.

2. The number of vessels *coastwise*, that have discharged and loaded cargoes at Dunbar, in the year ended 5th January 1835 :

Inwards—Of vessels, 244 ; tons, 11,919 ; men, 762.

Outwards— Do. 149 ; tons, 7081 ; men, 478.

3. Foreign grain imported at Dunbar in the year ended 5th January 1835: Wheat, 203 quarters 4 bushels; barley, 3346 quarters.

4. Quantities remaining in the bonded warehouses at 5th January 1835 :—Wheat, 441 quarters 1 bushel ; barley, 3346 quarters ; oats, 145 quarters, 7 bushels ; total, 3933 quarters.

5. Coals imported at Dunbar and its creeks during the same year :—Scotch coals, 9489 tons, 13 cwt. ; English do. 763 tons, 5 cwt. ; English cinders, 31 tons, 16 cwt.

6. Corn imported coastwise during the same year :—Wheat, 342 quarters ; barley, 2007 quarters, 2 bushels.

7. Corn exported coastwise during the same year.—Wheat, 3608 quarters, 3 bushels ; barley, 3936 quarters, 1 bushel ; oats, 6067 quarters, 1 bushel ; beans and pease, 1981 quarters, 7 bushels ; malt, 359 bushels ; wheat flour, 231 sacks. Whisky exported, 91,900 gallons.

Three distilleries, one of them in the parish, and the other two in Haddington, have done no work for the last two years. This must have greatly affected the grain market, and also the trade of the port.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—Dunbar is inhabited chiefly by the merchants, shopkeepers, and artisans required in such a situation; and it is the only market-town in the district. It had formerly a sample market for grain every Thursday, which in 1832 was converted into a stock-market every Tuesday.

Grain is brought to it from the surrounding country, but principally from the high-lands of Berwickshire, in the proportion, some days through the eastern toll, of ninety cart load from that quarter, to nine from the county of Haddington. The love of change led to the establishment lately of a stock-market at Tranent. This divided the Haddington market, which was decidedly the most important grain-market in Scotland ; lessened competition, introduced inferior grain, and reduced the prices. The sellers are now at the mercy of the buyer ; whatever portion of grain is presented, the result is the same. If there are no merchants, then

there are no sales; and if only two or three appear, it is in their power to regulate the market.

Villages.—There are three villages, namely, East-Barns, West-Barns, and Belhaven.

Means of Communication.—Seven miles, six furlongs, and ninety yards of the great road to London, pass through the parish; and there are excellent conveyances, both east and west. There is a post-office in the town, where the royal mail arrives every day at forty-five minutes past ten o'clock in the forenoon from the north, and at twenty minutes past eleven o'clock forenoon from the south. Steele's coach, which is both speedy and comfortable, leaves Dunbar for Edinburgh every week-day at seven o'clock in the morning, and returns to it on the same day at the same hour in the evening. The Union and Berwick coaches pass and repass every week-day. There are carriers twice every week, and regular packets to Leith and London.

Harbour.—The harbour is safe and commodious, has 9 feet of water at neap, and 14 at spring tides, and admits vessels of 300 tons burthen; but on account of rugged rocks at its entrance, skilful pilotage is required. The convention of Royal burghs in 1785, voted L. 600 to improve it; and Cromwell in his time granted L. 300 to repair the east pier, which had been destroyed by a storm.

Ecclesiastical State.—The worthy St Baldred, it is said, was the apostle of East Lothian. He fixed his cell at Tynninghame, and preached the Gospel through the district, sometime during the sixth century; and his successor was the pious St Cuthbert; but the subject is involved in obscurity. The parish belonged originally to the bishopric of Lindisfarne; and at the decline of the Northumbrian kingdom, it was ceded in 1020, with the rest of Lothian to the Scottish King, and annexed to the bishopric of St Andrews. In addition to the present parish, it then contained the parochial districts of Whittingham, Stenton, and Spott, which were chapelries subordinate to the mother church. This very extensive parish had six chapels, namely, Pinkerton, Heatherwick, Whittingham, Penshiel, Stenton, and Spott. Dunbar with its chapel of Whittingham was valued in 1176 at 180 merks, which, says Chalmers, "is a greater valuation than any other church in Scotland could bear." The Earls of Dunbar were proprietors of the whole parish, and patrons of the church and subordinate chapels. Patrick the tenth Earl, in 1342, converted this parochial into a collegiate church, which was the first establishment of the kind in Scotland.

It consisted of a Dean, an Archpriest, and eighteen Canons ; and the revenues of the church of Dunbar, with the incomes of the chapels of Whittingham, Spott, Stenton, Penshiel, and Heatherwick, were assigned for their support. The founder annexed to this college the churches of Linton or Prestonkirk, Dunse, and Chirnside ; and he reserved the patronage of the whole to himself and his successors. Afterwards, the chapels were converted into parish churches, but still dependent on the mother church as prebends of the college. When Heatherwick was made a distinct parish, it was a rectory called Belton, which was the name of the estate and also of two villages. It remained a separate parish until the Reformation in 1560, when it was re-annexed to Dunbar, and then also Dunbar ceased to be collegiate. The patronage of the church fell to the Crown with the forfeiture of the Earldom of Dunbar in 1434. The said earldom and patronage were enjoyed by the Duke of Albany, and at his forfeiture they again fell to the Crown, in 1483. The patronage of the church of Dunbar now belongs to the Dukedom of Roxburghe, and it is liferented by Mary Duchess Dowager of Roxburghe.

It appears that the church was named St Bae's, after its founder, according to a traditionary rhyme regarding three female saints, who strove to build a church nearest to the sea.*

We find that in a charter by King James IV. it is called *Ecclesia Collegiata Sancti Bae de Dunbar*. The building must have been repeatedly renewed and altered. When last taken down, its style was a mixture of Gothic and Saxon ; and it was in the form of a cross. It was inconvenient, and not large enough for the population. The last time Divine service was performed in it was on Sunday, 7th March 1819. The foundation stone of a new church was laid on the site of the old one, 17th April 1819 ; and on the 20th April 1821, the new church was opened for the ordination of the present incumbent. It is most conveniently situated for the whole parish. Almost the whole inhabitants are within three miles of it, and scarcely any of them beyond four. It contains 1800 persons, and has 61 free sittings for the poor of the parish.†

The manse was built in 1767. The glebe is four Scotch acres in extent ; and there is no grass glebe. The stipend is twenty

* " St Abb's upon the Nab,
St Helen's upon the Lea,
St Bae's, upon Dunbar sands,
Stands nearest to the sea."

† In 1822, a new method of letting church seats was adopted on the part of the burgh. A price was marked upon certain pews belonging to it, and the Provost nailed them up, that none might enter till they were let. The kirk-session complained

chalders. There are upwards of 1200 communicants in the parish belonging to the Established Church.

In 1792, there was a Burgher meeting in Dunbar, and an Anti-burgher meeting at East-Barns. The latter was in 1820 transferred to Dunbar. One of them is now called the High Meeting, and the other the Low Meeting; and they both belong to the united Associate Synod. There was then also a small meeting of Wesleyan Methodists; and what was said in the last Account respecting these societies, is applicable to them still, "their congregations are made up of a collection of people from all the parishes in the neighbourhood."

There are 815 families that adhere to the Established Church, and 294 families of Dissenters or Seceders of various denominations.

Education.—There are two parochial schools,—the one at West-Barns having all the legal accommodations, with the maximum salary, and the other, at East-Barns, having only one-half chalder, and the interest of L. 100 Sterling, bequeathed by William Hume, tenant at that place, and of L. 50 Sterling bequeathed by the Reverend George Bruce; and both these sums are committed in trust to the Presbytery of Dunbar, for the benefit of the school. The burgh has an English and a grammar school, united at present under one master, and a mathematical school. The teacher of the former has a house and forty guineas of salary; that of the latter a house and L. 20 Sterling. There are three unendowed schools.

The rural inhabitants of the parish are very attentive to the education of their children. Education is also highly prized by the people of the burgh; and if among the latter there are individuals who are inattentive to the instruction of their children, they should on no account be discharged from the task by their children being

to the Sheriff of this proceeding, who immediately ordered the pews to be opened, and having heard parties, found, "That although the heritors of the parish may be entitled to stipulate for, and receive rents from the parishioners for the seats in the parish church, yet, in default of obtaining tenants, they are not warranted in shutting them up in the manner here complained of, and therefore prohibits and interdicts the respondent, the chief Magistrate of Dunbar, from shutting up, in the manner complained of, the seats held by that burgh in the parish church, and finds him liable in the expense of this proceeding, reserving to him his relief against the magistrates and the community of said burgh, as accords." The Provost presented a petition against this interlocutor, alleging that the shutting up of the seats was the act of the magistrates, and not his individually. The kirk-session answered, that they had no means of ascertaining by what authority he acted, but what they affirmed they offered to prove. The Sheriff then ordered the magistrates and council to be called, conjoined the two processes, interdicted them from shutting up the seats, found them liable in the expense, and reserved to them recourse against each other. The magistrates next presented a bill of advocacy to the Court of Session, which was repelled, and the case remitted *simpliciter* to the Sheriff. The magistrates acquiesced, and paid the whole expense of procedure.

educated at a free school, which corrupts the parent and degrades the child. They ought rather to be stirred up to a sense of their duty, and prompted to place themselves and their children on an equality with their neighbours. The heritors and kirk-session provide for the education of all orphan children.

Library.—There is a Subscription Library, containing many hundred volumes; and a reading-room. The mechanics also have a library of several hundred volumes.

Banks.—In the town there is a branch of the British Linen Company, and also one of the Commercial Bank of Scotland.

Friendly Societies.—Many of these have, from time to time, existed in Dunbar; but, being established on erroneous principles, most of them were of short duration. The only one which has weathered the storm is the Sailors Society. It was established, beyond the memory of man, for the benefit of superannuated seamen and their widows. Its funds were originally derived from a duty of eight pennies on the pound Scots out of all wages paid to masters, mates, and sailors frequenting the port. This society must have been well managed, for now it has both lands and money.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The management of the poor is committed to the kirk-session, who regularly account to the heritors. The number of the poor and their allowances are perpetually changing. While, in other places, poor rates have increased,—here, by a steadfast adherence to the spirit of poor laws, they have been greatly diminished. The annual expenditure is at present about L. 450 Sterling,—which sum is raised, 1. by the interest of Binning's mortmain of L. 75 Sterling, paid by the burgh; 2. by incidents at marriages and funerals; 3. by collections at the church door; 4. by a regular assessment.

A committee of three heritors and three magistrates, with the assistance of the kirk-session, appointed to investigate the subject, lately ascertained that the total number of paupers in the burgh, and the landward parts of the parish, was 103. Of these, 86 have a settlement in the burgh; in the landward district, 17. It was further ascertained that, of these 103 paupers, 50 were born and brought up in the burgh; in the landward district, 10; emigrated from other parishes, 43.

In 1724, it was agreed between the heritors and the town, that for the year ensuing *allenarly*, the town should pay one-sixth of the money raised in the parish for the maintenance of the poor,—but with a special clause, that this should not become a precedent for the future. The other five-sixths were paid by the heri-

tors and tenants of the landward district. This agreement was not renewed,—but different rules were adopted till the year 1774, for which and the subsequent years, the town of Dunbar has paid only one-sixth of the assessment. The attention of the heritors was at length directed to the subject by certain extraordinary claims which were made on the part of the burgh. The chief magistrate claimed a right *ex officio* to give orders upon the funds;* and if two or more bailies attended the meetings, each claimed a right to vote.

The heritors being thus called upon to look to their interest, were advised to institute an action of *declarator*, to have it found “that the management and maintenance of the poor of the landward district and of the burgh are separate and distinct, and that the pursuers, as heritors of the landward district, with their tenants and other inhabitants thereof, are not liable for the support of the poor of the burgh, but for that of the poor resident within the landward district *allenarly*, and the provost, magistrates, and council, as representing the community of the said burgh of Dunbar, ought and should be decerned and ordained, by decree foresaid, to sustain and manage the poor of the said burgh according to law: Or otherwise, in the event of the pursuers failing in the above conclusion of their action, then and in that case it ought and should be found and declared, by decree foresaid, that the power of taking up the lists of the aggregate poor, determining the assessments, and managing the funds, belongs to the meeting of heritors, provost, minister, and elders, and that the assessment to be imposed for the support of the aggregate poor shall be laid on the whole inhabitants of the parish equally, whether in burgh or landward, according to the estimation of their substance, without exception of persons.” The action came before their Lordships of the Second Division, who ordered the opinions of the other Judges to be taken thereon. Three of the Consulted Judges having returned opinions for a separation, and six of them against it, their Lordships of the

* The writer conceives it to be of importance that the terms of the letter written on this occasion by the Provost to the Clerk of the Poores' Funds should be here inserted.

Dunbar, 1st November 1825.

SIR,—I gave an order upon you yesterday, to pay a woman twenty shillings to account of the maintenance of three poor children she has had the charge of, belonging to the parish, and which order I understand you have refused to pay, nor will you assign your reason in writing for your refusal, but have sent me a message that you have not time to write. I now again demand of you either to pay the order, or to state your reason why you withhold the money, as I consider a refusal a dereliction of your duty as clerk of the poores' funds, and I shall hold you personally responsible, and shall accordingly take the necessary steps to oblige you to account for your conduct; and in the meantime the town of Dunbar will withhold their share of the money they have been in the practice of paying towards the itinerant poores' allowance, as well as the cess allocated upon the town at the last meeting of heritors.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant.

Second Division, four in number, on 10th April 1833, resumed consideration of the case, with the returned opinions, and, unanimously concurring with the minority of the Consulted Judges, decerned in terms of the first conclusion.

The burgh appealed; Lord Brougham having offered, when he had ceased to be Chancellor, to hear Scotch cases, heard this one: and on his motion, the House of Lords, 10th April 1835, "Ordered and adjudged, that the interlocutor complained of in the said appeal be, and the same is hereby, reversed, and it is further ordered, that the cause be remitted back to the Second Division of the Court of Session, in order that the said Court may proceed further in the said causè, as shall be just and consistent with this judgment."

The kirk-session were called as parties in this action, but did not appear. They are most anxious, however, for an equitable settlement of the question, and the minister has never concealed his opinion, that the separation contended for would eventually benefit both parties. Since it has thus been found that there can only be one roll of poor in a parish, if it shall be further found that there must also be only one management and one assessment laid on the whole inhabitants according to the estimation of their substance, this judgment may prove most vexatious even to the burghs. It directly or indirectly affects every parish in Scotland. It leaves the burghs which have landward districts without a law; it introduces confusion into the whole system, and, there is reason to believe, that it is neither supported by the facts of the case nor by the acts of Parliament.

The case is one of very great importance: and those who take an interest in it may consult the process. Lanark is about to try the same question.

Jail.—The jail is in a very bad condition, and has been legally condemned; but fortunately it is seldom occupied. Two town-officers and two Sheriff-officers are all the police required in this peaceful district.

Fairs.—There are two fairs in the year, where all the usual wares and cattle are exposed:—one of them at Whitsunday, and the other at Martinmas, old style, if these days shall fall on a Tuesday; if not, on the first Tuesday thereafter.

Fuel.—Coal is the only fuel used, which is imported from Wemyss, Charleston, Borrowstounness, and Sunderland. Scotch coal costs from 7s. to 9s. per boll of 12 cwt. English coal from 10s. to 12s. according to quality.

Inns.—There are two inns in Dunbar, with excellent accommodation, and there are fifty-four persons residing within the parish licensed to sell beer and spirits,—a number by far too great. This is a sore evil, which has long been complained of, and it appears to be increasing. “There are,” says the judicious writer of the last account, “no fewer than forty-six licensed alehouses where low-priced spirits are retailed, and where the execrable custom of dram-drinking is practised. This we may justly pronounce to be the bane of all good and the source of a ll evil,—the ruin of health and morals,—and of all domestic duty and comfort,—the reproach of man, and the disgrace of woman.”

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

This parish is but of small extent, but it yields a large rental. An improved system of agriculture having been early introduced, its external surface has been but little changed since the last account; but by a copious application of manure, and by excellent cultivation, the soil has been rendered much more productive. The education—the habits and comforts of the people—the revenue of the burgh, and the rental of the parish—have all been greatly improved.

The plough now in use is not the best that might be devised to pulverize the soil, especially strong clays, so as to render them most productive. One with more coulter—to cut the furrows into small pieces, would permit the roots of plants to spread more freely—render the soil more capacious of moisture, and more susceptible of heat.

The nearer that field cultivation is brought to that of garden, the greater the return; and an implement to be drawn by a horse to Dutch-hoe the stubble, as soon as the crop is carried off, and sometime before the land is ploughed, would be the most effectual remedy against annual weeds. The trench plough, invented by Mr Smith of Deanston, might be introduced here with great advantage.

A railway has been projected from Cairnie, in the parish of Inveresk, to the town of Haddington, and port of Dunbar. A plan and estimate have been prepared by Robert Stevenson, Esq. civil-engineer.

All the hinds receive the same amount of gain—whatever be their merits as servants or workmen. It is worthy of consideration whether it would not greatly promote the interest of the farmer, as well as ultimately that of the hind, to hold out to the latter, the prospect of a higher allowance to such as excel.

September 1835.

UNITED PARISHES OF GARVALD AND BARA.*

SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE, PRESBYTERY OF
HADDINGTON.

THE REV. JOHN SANGSTER, D. D. MINISTER.†

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—GARVALD is said to be compounded of the two Gaelic words, *Gar*, signifying rough or rugged, and *vald*, a small water or burn. This etymology is exactly descriptive of the local situation of Garvald; for the village is situated upon a small water or burn, the bed of which abounds in stones. When this water is flooded, such is the force and rapidity of the stream, that it sweeps along and throws out upon the low grounds stones of great weight and size.

Extent.—The united parishes of Garvald and Bara extend from east to west about 8 or 9 miles, and from north to south about 4 or 5 miles. It is bounded by Gifford, Haddington, and Moreham on the west; by Whittingham on the north and east; and by Lauder on the south.

Topographical Appearances, &c.—The figure of the parish is irregular,—it being intersected by several of the adjacent parishes. The grounds that lie in the south and north of these parishes exhibit in their appearance a striking contrast to each other. Those on the south are mostly covered with heath, of a mossy soil. The range of the Lammermoor hills, which in these parishes extend from east to west about 8 or 9 miles, is for the most part covered with heath, interspersed with large plots of grass. The grounds that lie in the north are of a deep rich clay soil, and produce excellent crops of wheat, barley, oats, &c. Those towards the east are of a fine

* The parishes of Garvald and Bara were united in 1702. The late incumbent's immediate predecessor, Mr Archibald Blair, uncle of the late Lord President, preached, in terms of the decret of annexation, at Garvald and Bara, *per alternatas vices*, till about the year 1743 or 1744, when the kirk of Bara fell into disrepair. It is now a complete ruin.

† Drawn up by Mr Thomas Burnet, Preacher of the Gospel.

light gravelly soil, exceedingly well adapted for the culture of turnips and potatoes; both of which are here raised to a great extent. A great part of the soil in these parishes is either of this description, or of a deep rich clay.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners of the parish are, the Marquis of Tweeddale; Robert Hay, Esq. of Linpburn; Earl of Wemyss; Miss Hay of Nunraw; Mr Douglas of Garvald; and Captain Hay of Hopes.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers are regularly kept. The earliest date of the births and baptisms is 1694. The sessional records commence in 1721.

Antiquities.—Adjoining the Lammermoor hills, are situated the ruins of Whitecastle, in the eastern boundary of the parish. In early times, this fortification was of considerable importance, as it guarded a pass from the Merse and from England.—About a mile to the north on the farm of Garvald, there is a large fortification or encampment, situated on a rising ground; it is of a circular form, and is in circumference about 1500 feet in extent.—A little to the westward, on the farm of Carfrae, there was an encampment nearly of the same form and dimensions. Several years ago, the stones of the encampment were dug up to enclose the farm. One of the workmen, in digging up these stones, found the brass handle of a sword, which probably had been concealed there for several centuries.—About two miles to the west, on the farm of Newlands, there are two large tumuli thrown up in the middle of a plain, called by the country people the Black castle and Green castle. The late Marquis of Tweeddale, many years ago, planted the spot on which they stood, with Scotch firs and some gray wood. To the west of these tumuli, there are two other encampments,—one on the farm of Park, and the other on the estate of Hopes.

Mansion Houses.—There are only two mansion houses in the parish, Nunraw and Hopes. The house of Nunraw, some centuries ago, was a nunnery belonging to the priory of Haddington, and though modernized, still exhibits evident marks of great antiquity. An elegant house has lately been built at Hopes, by the present proprietor, and is pleasantly situated very near the bottom of a glen, and to the westward of one of the Lammermoor hills, on which there is an extensive and flourishing plantation of various sorts of trees. This plantation and several others upon the estate were raised by the late Charles Hay of Hopes, Esq.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1801, the population was	-	749
1811,	-	666
1821,	-	797
1831,	-	914

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Oats, 760 acres, 5 quarters 2 bushels, from 18s. to 27s.

Wheat, 350 do. 3½ to 4 quarters 36s. to 44s.

Barley, 450 do. 5 do. 23s. to 33s.

Turnips, 600 do. L. 3, to L. 6, per acre. .

Sown grass, 760 ditto.

Almost all the sown grass in the parish is used as pasture.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages.—There were formerly two villages in these parishes, Garvald and Bara. The village of Garvald contains 273 inhabitants. All the houses (except two or three) are feus at the rate of L. 3 per acre, built by masons, wrights, weavers, &c. In the vicinity of the village there is a freestone quarry of excellent quality.

Inns.—There are three public-houses in the village of Garvald ; besides these, there is an inn at Danskine, on the great road from Haddington to Dunse.

Means of Communication.—No public conveyances pass through the parish. Nor is there any post-office. There is a communication by carriers from Dunse to Haddington one day in the week. The length of the turnpike road in the parish is six miles. The bye-roads, kept in good repair by the statute labour money, are about sixteen miles in length. The bridges and fences are kept in good repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated at the eastern extremity of the parish, and very inconveniently placed for those who reside at the west end,—the distance being about six miles. It is old but in good repair. An addition was built to it in 1829. The church now affords accommodation for 360 persons. The free sittings in the church are for 50 persons. The manse was built in 1820, and is in good repair. The glebe consists of 13½ acres. The amount of stipend is 9 chalders, 4½ bushels, and L. 30, 6s. in money. The number of communicants at present averages 254. Notwithstanding the distance of many of the parishioners from the church, it is remarkably well attended.

Education.—There is but one parochial school. The school-house was repaired about two years ago, and is now in a very comfortable state. The schoolmaster's salary is the maximum. The number of his scholars is from 50 to 60. He is not qualified to teach Latin. There is also an unendowed school in the village ; the number attending it may be from 40 to 50 : and the fees are the same

as those taken at the parochial school. He also is unqualified to teach Latin. Under fifteen years of age, there are very few, if any, who cannot read and write. Above fifteen years of age, there may be a few who cannot write, but none who cannot read.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of poor upon the roll in this parish is 17; many of them live in their own houses, and generally receive from 12s. to L. 1 per quarter; some receive less. This small allowance is granted only as an help to their industry, not as an encouragement to sloth and idleness. There is not one beggar within the limits of these parishes. Occasional supplies are, besides, granted to other families, who by sickness and misfortunes are reduced to necessitous circumstances. The money annually expended on the poor of these parishes amounts to nearly L. 80. There is certainly a disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief, as they seem to consider it degrading.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society was established in this parish at the beginning of the present year, for the purpose of affording relief to the sick.

There is also another society in the parish called the Garvald Friendly Society, instituted in 1819, for the laudable purpose of raising a fund to relieve the distress of any member in the event of his cow dying. Each cow is insured to the amount of L. 10 Sterling.

September 1835.

PARISH OF HUMBIE.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES MACFARLANE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THIS parish was formed soon after the Reformation by the junction of the parishes of Keith and Humbie. In the end of the seventeenth century, the parish of Keith was called Keith-Symmars; and that of Humbie, Keith-Hundeley. The origin of the name Humbie, which they bear since their annexation, is unknown.

Extent, Boundaries.—This parish is partly intersected, towards the S. W. extremity, by the parish of Fala. But supposing it continuous, it is an oblong of 6 miles in length, from north to south, and 5 in breadth,—containing 19,200 imperial acres. It is bounded on the east by the parishes of Bolton and Salton; on the north by Pencaitland; on the N. W. by Ormiston and Cranston; on the west and south-west by Crichton and Fala; and on the south by the range of the Lammermoor-hills.

Topographical Appearances.—These hills vary in their form, soil, and elevation. Some of them are almost entirely covered with short heath; others are green, but interspersed with mossy bogs,—some of which have been lately dried by open surface draining, to improve the sheep pasture. Lammerlaw, which is the highest peak of the whole ridge, may be reckoned 1200 feet above the level of the sea. In other parts, the height of the summit above the level of the sea is from 800 to 1000 feet. The lower end of the parish is 350 feet above the sea level, and the base of the Lammermoors 600,—thus producing an elevation of 250 feet across the arable ground of the parish. In the higher parts of the parish the air is sharp and cold; but in the lower, it is more temperate. The climate is peculiarly healthful. In the centre and northern parts of the parish, less rain falls than at Edinburgh,—the pluvial clouds

being attracted on the one side by the mountainous range of Lammermoor, and on the other by the Frith of Forth.

Hydrography.—There are three brooks in the parish, each having a stone bridge of one arch. All of them issue from the hills above named, at a little distance from each other; and on reaching the valley, they take an easterly course,—when Keith and Humbie streams meet a little below the church: and nearly two miles below, they are joined by Birns-water, which from its source forms the eastern boundary of the parish. There is abundance of trout in these rivulets, some of which are of good flavour. The rivulets have a quantity and fall of water sufficient for machinery.

Mineralogy.—There seems to be abundance of iron ore in many places; and there are also some appearances of coal, but none has yet been wrought,—as the contiguous parishes abound in good coal, and also in limestone. The former is got for 9d. the load, the latter for 1s. 8d. per boll. The soil is very various; in some places, rich and loamy; in some, light and sandy; in others, clayey or mossy. Still, however, by skill and industry, it yields in general fair crops of turnip and every kind of grain.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—Of the proprietors of Whitburgh, by far the most ancient family now resident in the parish, several were distinguished for personal strength and courage, as well as for their liberality of disposition. Sir Adam Hepburn, a Senator of the College of Justice, early in the seventeenth century, was highly esteemed for his patriotic spirit and generous beneficence to the parish. He built at his own expense the first bridge on Humbie-water, which still bears his name, and the date of 1645. He also gave in donation to the heritors to serve for a manse,—a house, which then stood close to the church, with about three Scotch acres of haugh and bank. Hugh Scott of Harden, a gentleman of extensive property and baronial hospitality, lately succeeded to the Hepburns of Humbie.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are, the Earl of Hopetoun; Sir Neil Menzies, Bart.; Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden; and Andrew Fletcher, Esq. of Saltoun.

Parochial Registers.—In former times, the parochial registers were very ill kept,—some of them having been entirely lost or destroyed; they do not reach further back than 100 years.

Mansion-Houses.—Of modern buildings, the mansion of Mr Anderson of Whitburgh is the best. It was built twenty-four years ago. Keith-house, one of the seats of the Earl Marshal, may be mentioned on account of what it once was,—having been a large and elegant building, according to the taste of the times, and suited to the splendour of a family then the most opulent and powerful in the kingdom. The timber with which it was built was a present from the King of Denmark, as a testimony of the high opinion which he had formed of the Earl when employed to treat concerning the marriage of the Princess Anne of Denmark with James VI.

The ruins of a Roman Catholic chapel still remain in front of Keith House, with a cemetery attached to it, which is still used by some of the parishioners. Mr John Keynart, minister of Duffus, was vicar of Keith in the year 1595, when he sold the living, which afforded twelve chalders of victual, and three husbands of land, for a mere trifle, to the Earl Marshal. All succeeding proprietors have kept possession of the lands.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish must once have been greater than at present, as some vestiges of several small villages may still be traced.

Population in 1801,	-	-	-	785
1811,	-	-	-	837
1821,	-	-	-	837
1831,	-	-	-	875

The average number of births for the last seven years is 15, of deaths 9, of marriages 7.

There are 10 landed proprietors in the parish; but only two of them are at present resident. Their yearly rentals vary from L. 300 to L. 1500 Sterling respectively.

There are 7 bachelors and 6 widowers, all upwards of fifty years of age; and both taken together just equal the number of unmarried women above forty-five.

Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	190
chiefly employed in agriculture	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	123
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21

It is a melancholy fact, that there are 8 insane persons in one family, and one in each of two others; but all of them are harmless and inoffensive. The parents of these individuals are correct in their conduct and industrious, though they discover such a degree of mental imbecility as might indicate that the malady is hereditary.

IV—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—About 7000 acres are in a regular course of cultivation, and nearly 200 more might be cultivated along the face, and towards the base, of the Lammermoors; but, owing both to the high climate and the difficulty of getting manure, these lands are very seldom ploughed; and even when ploughed, it is chiefly for the sake of renovating the grass. There are in the parish about 2400 acres of hill and moor land.

Humbie wood consists of 400 imperial acres of oak and birch with some beech and firs; and being contiguous to Salton wood, it presents a range of beautiful and extensive scenery to the traveller from the top of Soultra-hill. Plantations, belts, and clumps on other estates extend to 100 acres more.

Rent of Land.—The rent of arable land varies from L. 2, 5s. to 14s. per acre, which may make the average L. 1, 5s. The rate of grazing has greatly fallen of late years; but hinds' cows are still rated at L. 5 for summer's grass and straw during winter. These are almost the only animals grazed at a fixed price per head, as farmers who have not sufficient pasture of their own take grass parks for the season. These are now let at from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3; some years ago they brought from L. 4 to L. 5 per acre. This may be the reason for valuing the grazing of cattle breeding to be fed off on turnip, according to their different ages and weight, at the low rate of from L. 2 to L. 3 per head. On clover or good old natural grass, the grazing of a sheep is worth from 12s. to 16s., estimating its size and quality.

Live-Stock.—Great attention has been given to the rearing of sheep, and improving their breed; and the success has been proportional. The black-faced seem to be in less repute, and the Cheviot, or a mixed breed between them and the Leicester, is preferred. Much improvement has also been made in the breed of cattle as well as in feeding them for the market.

Husbandry.—At present, rape-dust is much used for raising wheat, and bones for raising turnip, where there is a scarcity of dung. But perhaps the greatest and most effectual improvement in husbandry has been the practice lately introduced of grazing the farm, in regular rotation, for two or three years.

This county still retains its high reputation for agriculture; but the farming capital is greatly diminished within the last ten years. Farm-houses and steadings are generally substantial and on a liberal scale. Great attention is bestowed on fences both by proprie-

tors and tenants. Hedges are raised at a great expense where the soil is unfavourable to them.

Produce.—The following statement gives a fair average of the raw produce of the parish in ordinary years. The prices may be too high for the present year, but the unusually abundant crop will yield an equivalent.

1850 quarters wheat at 54s. per quarter,	-	-	-	L. 4590	0	0
1667 do. barley at 32s. do.,	-	-	-	2665	12	0
4869 do. oats at 24s. do.,	-	-	-	5876	8	0
357 do. pease at 82s. do.,	-	-	-	571	4	0
3110 bolls potatoes at 7s. per boll,	-	-	-	1088	10	0
286 acres turnip at L. 6 per acre,	-	-	-	1716	0	0
23120 stones of hay at 8d. per stone,	-	-	-	770	13	4
3044 sheep at 10s. each,	-	-	-	1522	0	0
Cows and cattle at L. 3, per head,	-	-	-	1077	0	0
Gardens,	-	-	-	60	0	0
Annual thinning and periodical felling of woods, &c.	-	-	-	300	0	0
Total value of yearly raw produce,				L. 20257	7	4

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—The two greatest grain markets in Scotland, Haddington and Dalkeith, are nearly equidistant, each being about nine miles from the centre of the parish.

Means of communication.—The cross roads to the latter town are heavy, having several steep ascents and declivities, till they reach the great line of road to England by Blackhills. These roads are kept in a tolerable state of repair, by statute labour; but it is contemplated to put a toll-bar on the principal one, when it will be partly altered, and otherwise much improved.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is in the very centre of the parish, (exclusive of the intersected part :) it is neat and substantial. It was built in 1800, and contains about 400 sittings, all of them free. The manse was built forty-seven years ago, and was then reckoned of the ordinary size; but in 1822 it received a considerable addition. The glebe is small but of good soil. The stipend being all in grain varies from L. 250 to L. 300, according to the rate of the fiars. The church is well and regularly attended. The number of communicants is from 280 to 300. There are two Episcopalian families in the parish; and the number of Dissenting families is 15.

Education.—There are two parochial schools in the parish, and both teachers are well qualified for their office. They have the legal salary and accommodations; but the school fees are small,—those of the one teacher being about L. 10 a year,—of the other, about L. 12.

Except in the extremities of the parish, which are near some neighbouring school, there are no individuals in the parish residing at an inconvenient distance from one or other of the above schools. In such circumstances, there is not one of the young capable of receiving instruction that cannot read; and generally they are taught to write and count with a considerable degree of readiness and accuracy. Some are taught gratis, or paid for from the poor funds.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The poor funds arise from assessments, collections, and interest, &c. The lying money amounts to L. 360 Sterling. The yearly amount of church collections is small,—the non-residence of the heritors, and the practice of legal assessment being unfavourable to that kind of charity. The amount of assessment is from L. 60 to L. 100 per annum; but on any pressing occasions, it is considerably more. The present number of paupers on the roll is 18, and the allowance given them varies from 6s. to 10s. each monthly,—besides occasional aid given to industrious families in distress. As might be expected from the rural simplicity and distance of the people from scenes of dissipation, (there being only one alehouse in the parish,)—they are sober and industrious, but perhaps less provident than in former times, and therefore soon brought to poverty when age or distress comes upon them. When thus pressed, they shew little reluctance to apply for parochial relief.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Forty years ago, the real rental of the parish was L. 2700. It is now upwards of L. 6300. The increase of produce with that of prices, also, till of late years, has been nearly proportional. But this great increase of product is not owing so much to more land being in tillage as to the superior and more expensive mode of cultivation. Since the above period, the number of cattle and sheep fattened for the market has been more than doubled. These are not entirely fed on farm produce, but partly on draff, dreg, and oil-cake. But the present aspect of things is too likely to give a check to every expensive improvement.

September 1835.

PARISH OF SALTON.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ROBERT KERR HAMILTON, A. M., MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE origin of the name of this parish is somewhat doubtful,—though it has in general been ascribed to the fact of the ancient manor having been possessed during part of the thirteenth century, by Nicolas de Soulis or Soules, one of the competitors for the Scottish Crown in 1291, (and grandfather of the celebrated Lord Soulis of border history,) from whom it is supposed to have been originally termed Soulistown, by abbreviation Soultown, and subsequently, by corruption, Saltoun, or Salton.

Extent, Boundaries, &c.—The extreme length of the parish is $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles; in breadth, it varies from 2 to 3. The number of square miles of surface, however, does not probably exceed 8. It is bounded on the north by the parishes of Gladsmuir and Haddington; on the east by that of Bolton; and on the south and west by those of Humbie and Pencaitland, from both of which it is divided by the Salton and Tyne waters. In figure, it nearly resembles an oval, of which the greater diameter extends from north to south. The regularity of the form is, however, somewhat affected on the eastern side, by two extensive indentations formed by the parish of Bolton.

Topographical Appearances.—From the western boundary, the land rises by a gradual ascent towards the south and east, until, at its highest point of elevation, called the Skimmer hills, it reaches the height of about 600 feet above the level of the sea. From this point, which is almost in the middle of the parish, the land again declines somewhat more abruptly towards the south, until it reaches the level of the Salton and Humbie waters. On the west and north, the ground wears the aspect of rich cultivation; the thorn hedges, often interspersed with wild roses, are neatly and tastefully kept; and the beauty of some of the roads is much increased by

their being bordered by different kinds of trees planted in the hedge-rows. On the southern slope of the above-mentioned height, a wood * extends for upwards of a mile and a-half, skirting the edge of the boundary stream on the south, and uniting with the equally extensive woods of Humbie. It consists chiefly of fir, birch, and oak. Towards the south-east, the aspect of the country is less fertile in vegetation, and inferior in natural beauty. The general appearance, however, of this part of East-Lothian is such as, from its agreeable diversity of hill and dale, does not render it unworthy of the appellation of the “Northamptonshire of North Britain,” by which the county has sometimes been characterized.†

Meteorology, &c.—The temperature of the atmosphere is equable, and, in the higher parts of the parish especially, distinguished by its salubrity. Many instances of longevity at present exist, and in former times they appear to have been equally numerous. “A tradition is preserved,” says the author of the last Statistical Account, “that, some centuries ago, when the plague visited, with dreadful ravages, this country, Salton was the only parish in the east of Scotland which escaped : an exception imputed to the purity of the air, and the smoke of the limekilns, which, it seems, even then abounded in the parish.” The salubrity of the climate is probably chiefly owing to the deficiency of moisture in the soil, and this again may in great measure be ascribed to the fact, that the parish, occupying a moderately elevated situation between the high range of the Lammermoors on the one hand, and the waters of the Frith of Forth on the other, is frequently exempted, by being thus placed between these two sources of nebular attraction, from the visitation of those heavy showers, to which the high uplands on the south, and the low districts on the north, are equally exposed.

Hydrography.—The parish possesses many excellent springs of water, strongly impregnated with lime ; a circumstance which, it is believed, conduces essentially to the healthfulness of the inhabitants, and to the general salubrity of the district. The Tyne and Salton waters are the only streams of any importance connected with the parish. The latter, for nearly three miles, forms its south-

* “The green-sward way was smooth and good,
Through Humbie's and through *Saltoun's* wood,—
A forest glade, which varying still,
Here gave a view of dale and hill,
There narrower closed, till over head
A vaulted screen the branches made.”—*Murmion*, Canto 4.

† Chalmers' *Caledonia*, ii. 400.

ern and western boundary, and is then united with the Tyne. At their confluence, the Salton is decidedly the greater stream of the two, and ought with propriety to have imparted its designation to the future course of the river. In both of these streams there is abundance of excellent trout.

Geology and Mineralogy.—Strata of limestone rock pervade the whole parish in a direction nearly north-west. The degree of inclination of the strata varies from 1 foot in 9, to 1 in 18. Petrifactions of the ordinary species of shell-fish are frequently found imbedded in the limestone; and in some places the surface of the rock is covered with stones of a silicious quality, which, when quarried, are used, with advantage, as flags for pavement. In other places, the rock is found to be overlaid with bastard limestone, and, what is somewhat unusual, the strata of limestone are frequently divided from each other by conjoined strata of free and whinstone. Under the strata of limestone, there is every reason to believe, from some experiments which were formerly made, that a fine seam of coal would be found. The immediate vicinity, however, of many excellent collieries in the adjoining parishes has hitherto rendered any attempt to work it unnecessary.

The soil is various, consisting of loam, light sand, thin clay, and strong deep clay; but the clay soils prevail. On the west and north-west, and alongst the slope of the hill which terminates in the bed of the Tyne, the soil is peculiarly fertile and productive, being chiefly composed of the rich loam and clay. Towards the summit of the central hill on which East Salton is situated, the soil is less favourable; but towards the southern extremity of the parish, it again in some degree recovers its former richness.

Botany.—There are various plantations in the parish, of the ordinary species of trees found in such situations. The soil is deemed peculiarly congenial to the growth of fir and oak. Beech, elm, and larch are also found well suited to the soil and climate. In the grounds of Salton, which have many features of natural beauty, and are laid out with much taste, are some fine specimens of the thorn acacia, cedar of Lebanon, and hemlock spruce.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices, &c.—The first authentic notice of the manor of Salton occurs during the twelfth century, when it was held, alongst with other extensive possessions in Scotland, by the afflu-

* There is an *orchard* mentioned as existing in the lands of Herdmanston so far back as 1190.—*Charter of Richard de Morville to Henry St Clair*, referred to by Chalmers in his *Caledonia*.

ent and powerful family of the De Morvilles, who were at this period the Constables of the kingdom. The lands of Herdmanston lay within this manor of Salton, and were granted about the year 1190 by Richard de Morville to Henry de St Clair, who then served the Morville family as their Sheriff.* From him, the present noble proprietor of the estate of Herdmanston is descended, in the possession of whose family the property has thus been for upwards of six hundred years. On the accession of Robert de Bruce, the descendants of the De Morvilles were forfeited, they having, with the English monarch, espoused the interests of Balliol; and the St Clairs from that period became tenants in chief. During the reign of Alexander III. (about 1260) the greater part of the manor of Salton proper appears to have been possessed by William de Abernethy, son of Sir Patrick Abernethy of that ilk. His descendants acquired, in 1445 or 1455, the title of Lords of Salton, being then in possession of very extensive territorial grants.† In this family the manor of Salton continued till 1643,—a period of nearly four hundred years from the date of their first occupancy, when Sir Andrew Fletcher, better known as Lord Innerpeffer, purchased from Lord Abernethy of Salton, the present estate,—of which his lineal descendant, Andrew Fletcher, Esq. is now proprietor.

Eminent Characters.—With the parish of Salton many characters of distinguished eminence have been connected. Of those to whom she had the honour of giving birth, William Dunbar, the celebrated poet, was long supposed to have been one. This opinion, first maintained by Allan Ramsay, and subsequently by Lord Hailes, has been adopted by the author of the former Statistical Account, naturally misled by the error of such eminent authorities. Subsequent and more accurate investigation, however, has proved the opinion to be erroneous. It appears to have originated with Ramsay in a misprint of the words “Saltone Mount” for “Falcone Mount,” in the well known lines of the “Flyting of Dunbar and Kennedy,” in which the residence of the former is supposed to be pointed at by his poetical adversary.‡ These words

* *Diplomata Scotiæ*, pl. 75. Chart. Glasgu. 163–5, referred to by Chalmers.

† The present Lord Saltoun derives his title from this family. Upon the death of Alexander Lord Abernethy of Salton in 1669, without issue, his title, &c. descended to his cousin, Alexander Fraser of Philorth, son of Margaret Abernethy, the only daughter of George Lord of Saltoun.—See *Crawford's Peerage*.

‡ The following are the lines in question: Kennedy, after having expatiated on his own wealth, contrasted with Dunbar's poverty, is supposed thus to address him:

“Thy geir and substance is a widdy teuch,
On *Falcone Mount* about thy craig to rax.

have since been satisfactorily shown * to refer to Mountfaucon in Paris, where Dunbar resided at the period of the composition of the poem. It is evident, however, from his own language ("Flyting," line 110,) that he was a native of one of the Lothians, and as he is generally supposed to have been the immediate descendant of Sir Patrick Dunbar of Beill in East Lothian, there is every presumption that some part of the county of Haddington was the scene of his birth; but as to what particular locality is entitled to claim this distinction there is no evidence whatever.

Patrick Scougall, afterwards well known as Bishop of Aberdeen, was the incumbent of this parish for upwards of five years. He was translated from Leuchars, and inducted into the parochial charge of Salton, 29th January 1659. In April 1664, he was elevated to the bishopric. †

Henry Scougall, his son, the author of the much and justly esteemed work "The Life of God in the Soul of Man," was born at Salton during his father's incumbency, some time in June 1660. Equally distinguished by his superior talents, and his eminent piety, he attained at an early period of life to those honourable stations which are in general reserved for age and experience. At nineteen, he filled the chair of philosophy at Aberdeen; four years afterwards, he accepted the living of Auchterless, where he ably and zealously discharged the functions of the holy ministry; and after an incumbency of two years, being then only twenty-five, he was again recalled to his academical pursuits, and for the remainder of his life filled the office of Professor of Divinity in King's College, Aberdeen. His mortal career, however, though bright and useful, was

And yet *Mount Falcone* gallows is our fair
For to be fleit wi' sic a feckless face."

Montfaucon was then the common place of execution in Paris; and it is to this that the allusion appears to have been intended.

Dunbar's *chœf-d'œuvres* are considered to be "The Throssil and the Rois," designed to commemorate the union of James IV. with Margaret of England; "The Goldin Terge," and the "Daunce of the seven deadly sins." He has been termed by way of eminence "the Horace of Scotland," and his genius and merit as a poet have been unreservedly eulogised by almost every critic. It is to be regretted, however, that the meed of praise which has so lavishly been bestowed upon him has never been qualified by the consideration, that the tendency of many of his compositions is immoral and even profane; and if it be doubtful whether he is entitled to be designated the Horace of his country, in point of poetical genius, there is unfortunately little doubt that, in point of licentiousness of sentiment, the appellation is too justly merited.

* For a full and satisfactory explanation of this error, see Laing's edition of Dunbar's Poems, Vol. ii. pp. 429, 32, Edin. 1834, to which we are indebted for the statements made in the text.

† During the period of his incumbency the eldership appears to have been much more numerous in proportion to the amount of population than in more modern times. From the kirk-session records it appears, that in 1663-65, when the number of the inhabitants of the parish was probably under 600, there were no fewer than thirteen elders in office.

but brief: he died in 1678, having scarcely completed his twenty-eighth year. To him Leighton might truly have applied his favourite adage, "*Diu vixit qui bene vixit.*"

Superior, however, as a character of public eminence to either of the preceding, occupying a much more distinguished place in the history of the past, and still continuing to enjoy, by the labours of his genius and the recollection of his moral worth, a prominent station in the eye of mankind is the individual, who, as the immediate successor of Scougall, next filled the office of minister of Salton. The name of Gilbert Burnett, Bishop of Salisbury, is calculated to shed a lustre, not only on that humble spot which formed the first and early sphere of his ministerial labours, but on the country which gave him birth, and on the age in which he lived. Distinguished as he was by the remarkable vigour of his understanding, the unblemished integrity of his character, and the unequalled moderation of his public conduct, he was eminently suited to the circumstances of the times in which his lot was cast, and peculiarly qualified to discharge those delicate and important duties, which, in after life, and in a more elevated station, frequently devolved upon him.*

He was admitted minister of Salton, the 29th of January 1665, having been presented to the living by the Crown.† During his incumbency, he was most assiduous in the performance of his pastoral duties. He preached twice every Sabbath, and once during the week. In the important duty of catechising and examining his flock from house to house, and of administering spiritual consolation to the sick, he was equally exemplary and assiduous. He

* Wodrow, after having adverted to him as one of Bishop Leighton's "evangelists," who were selected for their peculiar mission, on account of their "fame, learning, and preaching gifts," speaks of him as "Mr Gilbert Burnet, well known to the world since, first Professor of Divinity at Glasgow, and after that persecuted for his appearing against Popery, and for the cause of liberty; and since the Revolution the learned and moderate Bishop of Sarum, one of the great eye-sores of the highfliers and Tories in England, and a very great ornament to his native country."—Church History, Book ii. chap. 5.

The only circumstance which, on looking back calmly and dispassionately on the events of the past, tends in any degree to diminish our admiration of this eminent man is the fact—in his case, perhaps, the result rather of circumstances than of choice—of his having acted so conspicuous a part in the unjustifiable and impolitic attempt of the Episcopal party of the time to force upon the people of Scotland a mode of faith and worship, which the latter conscientiously deemed to be unscriptural, and which they too justly feared would lead to a spiritual usurpation of a still more unhallowed character.

† Sir Robert Fletcher, through whose influence the appointment was obtained, had wished him to accept of it nearly a year before, when it became vacant by Scougall's elevation to the Episcopate; but Burnett declined the offer, and going to Holland, spent the interval at Amsterdam in studying oriental literature and theology.

is stated generally to have preached extempore, having, by diligent practice, acquired the power of speaking with great fluency and correctness. Arguing, however, from the character of his written productions, which are in general rough and careless in point of composition, his style of speaking was probably never characterized by eloquence. He left Salton, as appears from the kirk-session records, on the 18th November 1669, having been called to fill the chair of Theology in the University of Glasgow, the duties of which he discharged with approved fidelity.

When elevated to a more eminent station in the church, he was not unmindful of the interests of that parish which had witnessed his early labours. He bequeathed in trust to the Lairds of Salton and Herdmanston, and to the minister for the time, the sum of 20,000 merks, to be applied in different sums as follows: for the education and clothing of thirty children “of the poorer sort;” for the erection of a new school-house, and affording a perpetual augmentation of the schoolmaster’s salary; for the increase of a library which had already begun to be formed “for the minister’s house and use;” and the remainder for relieving the wants of the necessitous poor.* The particulars connected with the present application of this fund are stated below. † By this generous bequest

* The language in which, in the codicil containing this bequest, the bishop expresses himself, affords a pleasing evidence that the lofty elevation which he had then attained had not taught him to forget the humble scene of his “first love.”—“This course,” he adds, after having prescribed the particulars of the destination, “I order to be continued for ever, as an expression of my kind gratitude to that parish who had the first fruits of my labours, and among whom I had all possible kindness and encouragement.”

† The present value of the bishop’s bequest is L. 2000 Sterling, which being invested on heritable security at four per cent., yields annually the sum of L. 80. This sum the trustees allot as follows:

For the clothing of the thirty children, about,	-	-	-	L. 35	0	0
Allowed to the schoolmasters for their education,	-	-	-	26	0	0
Books, stationery, &c. and other incidental expenses of education,	-	4	0	0		
For the necessitous poor according to the bequest,	-	-	-	10	0	0
For the increase of the manse library,	-	-	-	5	0	0
				<hr/>		
				L. 80	0	0

As the expense of clothing has been found in general to exceed the above amount, its issue has occasionally been suspended for a year, and the surplus, where any existed, applied to the department of education; and as it is believed, that the interest of the bequest will in future be required to be reduced to $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. thus making the annual proceeds only L. 70, the above arrangement will probably become permanent, and the children be clothed only every alternate year. In order to qualify for admission on the fund, the parents of the children who are applicants must have resided for not less than two years in the parish. According to the provisions of the will, the lairds of Salton and Herdmanston and the minister of the parish for the time, nominate. Every child enjoys the benefits of the fund for four years. A list of their attendance at school and church is accurately kept, and if any great irregularity in these respects, without sufficient cause, has taken place, the defaulter is either struck off the list, or, as a mitigated punishment, deprived of clothing in future.

the memory of the good bishop is still perpetuated in the parish. The children on the fund are familiarly termed "bishops;" and the gallery in church appropriated for their use has received, and is ever likely to retain, the appellation of "the Bishop's laft."

Burnett lived until 1715, having then filled the see of Salisbury for nearly twenty-six years.

Salton was also the birth place and residence of another character of distinguished eminence. The celebrated Andrew Fletcher, the intrepid assertor of the civil and religious independence of his country, was born here in 1658. His father, who died while his son was yet in early youth, committed him, on his deathbed, to the guardianship of Burnett, then minister of the parish, from whom it is supposed the young patriot first imbibed those liberal sentiments on government which he ever afterwards avowed. In them, however, he seems subsequently to have outstripped his teacher. The character of this undoubtedly great man has been variously represented: by some he has been described as a rank republican, whose projected limitations of the royal prerogative were only designed to lead to the erection of a Scottish commonwealth, and whose opposition to the union was prompted by selfish and interested motives. By others, he is represented as a man of pure and disinterested patriotism, whose sole object was to maintain the liberties of his country on a constitutional basis. This is not the place to attempt to adjust the merits of the controversy. His sentiments unquestionably, verged towards republicanism, but to this extreme they were naturally led to tend, from the impression he entertained, that the opposite and equally dangerous extreme was more likely to obtain the ascendant. The purity of his motives and the integrity of his conduct are unquestionable. His anticipations of evil as the result of the union, subsequent events have happily shewn to be fallacious.* He died at London in 1716, on his way from France to Scotland, whither he had fondly hoped to have ar-

The children, however, are mostly exemplary in their attendance, and only one or two instances of the infliction even of the lesser penalty have occurred. There are at present on the fund sixteen male and eight female children, varying in age from seven to fourteen.

* From an MS. in the library of the late Thomas Rawlinson, Esq., first published in the edition of Fletcher's Political Works, printed at Glasgow in 1749, we quote the following brief and somewhat quaint description of his personal appearance: "A low thin man, of a brown complexion, full of fire, with a stern sour look, and fifty years old."

rived before he breathed his last. His remains were subsequently brought to Scotland by his nephew Lord Milton. The ashes of the patriot now repose in the family vault below the aisle of Salton Church.

Andrew Fletcher, the nephew of the patriot, better known as Lord Milton, was also a native of Salton, being born there in 1692. He adopted the profession of the Bar, and rose rapidly through the inferior gradations of office to the elevated situation of Lord Justice-Clerk. This office he held during the troublous period of 1745, and is admitted, on all hands, to have discharged its delicate and trying duties with singular lenity and forbearance.* He died in 1766: and his remains are likewise deposited in the family vault.

Chief Land-owners.—These are the following, Andrew Fletcher, Esq. of Salton, who possesses nearly four-fifths of the land in the parish; Lord Sinclair, proprietor of the estate of Herdmanston, and the farms of Greenlaw and Wester Blance; the Earl of Haddington, proprietor of the farm of Samuelston Mains, a small part of the Samuelston estate, which lies chiefly in the adjoining parish of Gladsmuir; and the Earl of Dalhousie, proprietor of the lands of Easter Blance (anciently *Blanes*,) which form part of the adjoining estate of Coalston.

Parochial Registers.—The records of kirk-session consist of several volumes, commencing with the 27th April 1635, and continuing to the present day, with the exception of a hiatus extending from 1642 to June 1663, and another from 1748 to November 1759. During the latter period, the deficiency is chiefly in the minutes of kirk-session proceedings; the register of baptisms, marriages, and burials being, with a few exceptions, regularly kept. In the earlier portion of the records, very minute details of parochial transactions are inserted. The texts of the ministers' sermons are noted down each Sabbath. If he were absent, the place where he was officiating is mentioned, as also the name of the

* We quote from the last Statistical Account the following remarks on his character, which we believe to be just: "The conduct of almost the whole public affairs of Scotland fell upon him, and these he managed with such an uncommon degree of discretion, temper, and moderation, that the impetuosity of wanton punishment was restrained, and lenient measures adopted in favour of those, whom indiscretion or ignorance had betrayed into hostility. He overlooked many of the informations which were brought to his office; and it is stated here from the best authority, that, after his death, many sealed letters, containing such information, were found unopened among his other papers. With the same patriotic views, he engaged zealously in the abolition of heritable jurisdictions, which had long been inimical to order and to justice. With unremitting ardour he pursued every scheme that could promote the trade, manufactures, agriculture, and reforming of his country."

clergyman who acted as his substitute at home. Many social offences, of a much less serious nature than those which now generally form the subject of church discipline, appear to have been visited by the censure of the kirk-session; and rebukes in the presence of the congregation, even for such comparatively trivial delinquencies, seem to have been universal.

Antiquities.—In the south-west part of the parish, and close to the brink of the stream, are the remains of an enclosure of an oval form, supposed to be a Pictish or Danish camp. It consists of two walls or dikes running parallel to each other, and having between them a fosse, now almost filled up, of about 10 yards in width. The circumference of the inner inclosure may be about 500 yards. No tradition exists by which any light is thrown on the history of this remnant of antiquity.

In the park at Herdmanston, and close to the present mansion-house, are the remains of part of a chapel erected in the thirteenth century by John de St Clair. All that now exists of this ancient building is a portion, apparently of its western extremity, measuring within the walls, 30 feet in length, by 14 in breadth. A part of the eastern end appears to have been recently removed, and the gable rebuilt with fresh stone. It is now used as the burying vault of the Sinclair family. Within, are two flat tombstones covering the remains of William de St Clair, and Sibilla, his wife, bearing date 1598. A few yards to the north of this cemetery is an old arch, a fragment obviously, of the ancient castle of Herdmanston, having the date on the keystone.

Herdmanston is now, and has for many years, been occupied by the Honourable Adam Gillies, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, the noble proprietor himself residing almost entirely in England.

There are no documents in the possession of resident individuals which are calculated to illustrate the antiquities of the parish itself. There is, however, in the charter-chest of the Fletchers an interesting historical document, to which I cannot forbear advertising. It is the original letter written by the Marquis of Argyll to his son, on the morning of his execution. Its brevity, independently of its intrinsic interest, will justify me in inserting it at length below.*

* "DEARE JAMES,

Edr. Castle, 30th June [16]85.

"Learn to fear God: it is the only way to make you happie here and hereafter. Love and respect my wife, and hearken to her advice. The Lord bless you.—I am, your loving Father,"

(Signed) "ARGYLL."

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population amounted to	.	761
1791,	.	830
1801,	.	768
1811,	.	814
1821,	.	834
1831,	males 386, females 398	784
1835,	390, . 400	790

From the preceding statement, it appears that the population has been very fluctuating in point of numbers. The rapid diminution of nearly eight per cent. between 1791 and 1801, is accounted for by the removal, during that period, of several public works, which employed a large number of operatives; and also by the consolidation of some of the smaller farms into large ones. The large increase from 1801 to 1811 is explained by the fact of a different family, with a household of forty persons, then occupying the mansion-house of Salton. The decrease between 1821 and 1831 is also explained by the circumstance of Mr Fletcher's house having been rebuilt during the former period, and a large number of artisans of different kinds having been then domiciled in the parish.

		<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
In the village of East Salton there reside	-	140	134	274
In that of West Salton	-	88	98	186
In landward parts of the parish,	-	162	168	330
Total,	-	390	400	790

The following is the distribution of the population in respect of age, &c.

<i>Age.</i>	<i>Single.</i>		<i>Married.</i>		<i>Widowed.</i>		<i>Total.</i>
	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
Under 15,	155	147	0	0	0	0	302
15 to 30,	85	87	12	17	0	1	202
30 to 50,	13	15	67	67	3	3	168
50 to 70,	1	4	35	36	5	7	88
Above 70,	0	3	9	3	5	10	30
Total,	254	256	123	123	13	21	790
Yearly average of births for the last four * years,	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Do. deaths	-	-	seven	-	-	-	104
Do. marriages	-	-	do.	-	-	-	54
The number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	-	-	171
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	-	-	54
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	-	-	43

Belonging to the parish there is one insane person, in confinement at a private asylum in the neighbourhood: 2 fatuous, and 1 blind, who are resident.

There are 3 families of independent fortune who reside in the parish. Of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, there are 4,—being the heritors before-mentioned, one of whom only, Andrew Fletcher, Esq. of Salton, is resident.

* For some years previous to this period the baptismal register was not accurately kept.

Habits and Character of the People, &c.—The general character of the people, in a religious and moral point of view, is on the whole exemplary, and may be considered as above mediocrity. Within the last few years, from the period of the incumbency of the present minister's predecessor, a very beneficial change is said to have taken place in the moral and religious habits of the lower orders. The young are in general well-grounded in the principles of religion; docile in receiving instruction; and civil and respectful in their manners. The inhabitants are in general attentive to the outward observances of religion, especially in their attendance on divine worship. Family worship is not, however, so much observed as it ought, and as we trust it may yet be. Intemperance is by no means frequent; and for some time past the parishioners have, almost universally, abandoned the practice of using any species of liquor at funerals,—a resolution for which they deserve the greater commendation, as its adoption originated entirely with themselves. No crimes of a public nature have for years been committed; nor has the parish for some time past been found to require any constable or police officer within its bounds.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—In an economic point of view the parish may be regarded as exclusively agricultural; there being now no public works within its bounds, and the only kind of handicraftsmen and artisans whom it supports being those whose labours are either indispensably required by the necessities of the population, or are directly subservient to the purposes of agriculture.

The following statement of the agricultural economy of the parish does not pretend to strict accuracy, but may be regarded as making a tolerable approximation to the truth.

	<i>Imperial Measure.</i>
Number of acres cultivated, or occasionally in tillage,	2596
in permanent pasture,	150
under wood, chiefly artificial,	420

There are twelve farms in the parish, varying in extent from 100 to 500 Scottish acres.

Rent of Land, &c.—The rent of land ranges from L. 1 to L. 3 per Scottish acre. The average rent of grazing is at the rate of L. 3 for an ox, and L. 5 for a cow. Twelve or fourteen score of sheep are generally kept at grazing for the market, or domestic use.

Rate of Wages, &c.—The rate of labour for farm and other labourers is in summer 1s. 8d. per day; in winter 1s. 6d.; females employed in the field receive in general from 8d. to 9d. per day. The wages of shearers in time of harvest have, for the last ten years, varied from 1s. to 2s. 6d. A large portion of the male inhabitants are employed as farm-servants, or, as they are provincially termed, *hinds*. These hinds receive no stated daily wages. They are allowed from L. 8 to L. 10 per annum in money; a cow's keep, equal to L. 5; potato-ground, and a certain weekly allowance of oatmeal, barley, pease, and corn; in all, their yearly income, may, when reduced to money, amount to about L. 23. Twenty days' shearing is the amount of their house-rent.

The wages of artisans, &c. are as follows: carpenters per day, from 2s. to 2s. 6d.; masons from 2s. to 3s.; coopers, 14s. to 15s. per week; blacksmiths, 16s.; bakers, 6s. with bed and board. The price of a full-mounted cart fit for use, L. 10; ploughs, L. 3, 3s. to L. 3, 10s.; wooden harrows per pair, L. 1; do. iron per do. L. 3.

Husbandry.—The system of husbandry pursued in the parish is, in general, in accordance with the most approved principles adopted in this highly agricultural county. The farming of the principal part of the arable land is conducted according to what is technically termed the four-course shift, viz. fallow, wheat, grass, and oats, in successive annual rotation. In some soils, what is termed the six-course shift is used, consisting of the following succession; fallow, wheat, grass, oats, pease or beans, wheat or oats: and recently the five-course shift, consisting of fallow, wheat, two years grass, and oats, has been adopted apparently with much success. In these several rotations, the term fallow is used as including partial crops of turnip and potato. Turnip husbandry is not carried on to a very considerable extent,—the ground not being altogether suitable for their cultivation. At present, the quantity of land under this species of culture may amount to about 100 acres. A portion of the turnip crop is raised by the aid of bone-manure and rape-cake, which are now more universally employed than formerly, and to a considerable extent supersede the use of lime. About one-half of the turnips are eaten off the ground by sheep; the remainder are removed for the uses of the farm-yard. The ground was in former times generally drained according to the old system; but furrow draining has been lately introduced, and is now universally adopted, apparently with the most beneficial results. For this pur-

pose, tiles are chiefly employed, being supplied by a manufactory recently erected in the parish. In some places, however, owing to the vicinity of excellent quarries, stones continue still to be used for purposes of drainage.

The general duration of leases is for nineteen years. Farm buildings are in general in an excellent condition. They are built of freestone, and chiefly tiled, as, indeed, are almost all the buildings of this character in East Lothian, as well as the dwellings of the peasantry. The enclosures and fences are good and sufficient, and neatly kept, one-half of the expense being defrayed by the landlord, and the other half by the tenant.

Quarries.—There are in the parish two limestone quarries, each yielding an excellent material, with lime-kilns at both, built on the most approved principle. There is also a freestone quarry for the use of the estate of Salton, which yields a good stone for building, though somewhat of a reddish tinge. All the quarries are wrought in the usual way. The average number of men employed in the lime-quarries and kilns is about twenty-five.

Manufactures.—In former times, many public works were in operation in the parish, which now no longer exist. In the beginning of the last century, the first mill for the manufacture of *decorticated*, or as it is familiarly termed, *pot-barley*, that was ever known in Scotland was erected in this parish. About the same time also, the first manufactory for the weaving of *Hollands* in Britain was established here: and both these arts were long exclusively practised, to the great emolument of the inhabitants, who supplied the whole of Scotland with these important articles. The introduction of these manufactures was owing to the ingenuity and zeal of the lady of Henry Fletcher of Salton, who, for the purpose of acquiring the secret of these arts, travelled in Holland with two expert mechanics in the disguise of servants, by whom models of the machinery were taken, and afterwards applied to practical use. In the year 1750, also, the first bleachfield, belonging to the British Linen Company, was formed here under the patronage of Lord Milton. “During his Lordship’s life it was conducted with much spirit: no expense was spared in procuring from Ireland the most expert workmen, and it became at last so very flourishing as to afford employment to upwards of 100 persons.”* Subsequently to this, a paper-mill, and a starch-work were erected in the parish, each of which, at the period of the pub-

* Former Statistical Account.

lication of the former Statistical Account (1792) employed eight persons. All these manufactures have now ceased to exist. The celebrated barley-mill is devoted to other purposes; and of the other structures not one stone now remains upon another. The only public work at present in operation in the parish is a brick and tile factory on the estate of Salton, originated and erected by the present proprietor, Mr Fletcher, in the year 1834. The kiln is 21 feet in length, and 10 in breadth within the walls, and gives employment to seven workmen, including a manager. Draining tiles are at present the chief article of manufacture. Since the erection of the work in 1834, the amount of produce has been as follows: 500,000 draining tiles, 20,000 house do., and 12,000 common brick.

Produce.—The average gross annual amount and value of raw produce raised in the parish, may, on a rough calculation, be as follows:

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man, or of the domestic animals,	L. 6000	0	0
Of potatoes, turnips, cabbages, beet and other plants cultivated in the fields for food,	700	0	0
Of hay, whether meadow or cultivated,	150	0	0
Of land in pasture,	530	0	7
Of the annual thinning and felling of plantations, &c.	700	0	1
Of quarries	2000	0	0
Of miscellaneous produce, not previously enumerated,	200	0	0
Total,	L. 10,280	0	0

Association for the Encouragement of Industry, &c.—About the commencement of the present century, the late General John Fletcher originated a society in the parish for promoting the interests of agriculture, by the bestowal of annual premiums for the best breeds of stock, the best specimens of agricultural produce, the most ingenious implements of tillage, &c. After being conducted with much success for about twenty years, the funds of the society, then amounting to L. 700, were, with the consent of the present proprietor, transferred to the “East Lothian United Agricultural Society,” in which the original Salton Society is now entirely merged. Should the former, however, be dissolved, it is provided that the above-mentioned funds return to the original object for which they were destined by General Fletcher. There is an annual meeting of the United Society held in the parish the last Thursday of May, when a pretty extensive cattle shew generally takes place.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets &c.—The nearest market-towns are Haddington and Dalkeith, the former being five and a-half, and the latter about ten miles distant from the centre of the parish. It is chiefly to the former that the agricultural produce of the parish is conveyed.

Villages.—There are two villages in the parish, East and West Salton, so called from their relative situation to each other. The former is almost exactly in the middle of the parish, and is situated on the road which leads from Edinburgh, across the Lammermoors, to Dunse. The latter is situate a mile to the west of East Salton, nearly on the verge of the parish, and within a few hundred yards of the Salton water.

Means of Communication.—The above-mentioned road from Edinburgh to Dunse traverses the parish for upwards of three miles. The whole extent of turnpike roads may be about seven miles. The only regular means of communication with the capital, from which Salton is fifteen miles distant, is by a carrier, who goes and returns once a-week. A carrier from Gifford to Edinburgh also passes once a-week through the parish. For some months during summer a one-horse coach runs every alternate day between Gifford and Tranent, passing through the village of East Salton, and conveying passengers to the Haddington coaches. This means of conveyance, however, does not meet with all the encouragement which it were desirable it should receive. There is a post-office at West Salton, established in 1812, which maintains a daily communication with Haddington, the post-town. The range of its delivery extends to the whole parish, and to different places in the adjoining parishes of Humbleton, Ormiston, Bolton, and Pencaitland. One penny additional is charged on the postage to Haddington. The post-master's salary is L. 5,—a sum scarcely adequate as a remuneration for the duties performed.

There are three stone bridges in the parish, or rather connecting it with those adjoining, all of which are in good repair; besides these, there are two also of stone, and of tasteful architecture, within the park at Salton Hall.

Ecclesiastical State, &c.—Of the ancient ecclesiastical history of the parish little is known. During the reign of David I. (about 1130) Hugh de Morville, the then lord of the manor, granted the church of Salton, with a carrucate of land, and the tenth of a multure of the mill of Salton, to Dryburgh Abbey. About the close of

the following century, John de St Clair, who was then possessor of the lands of Herdmanston, erected a chapel on his estate, with the permission of the canons of Dryburgh, to whom he granted two acres of land, with an indemnity "that his chapel should not injure the mother church of Salton."* The monks of Dryburgh continued, until the Reformation, to enjoy these ecclesiastical possessions. During the agitations of that eventful period, when personal aggrandizement was so often sheltered under the pretence of public principle, the ecclesiastical revenues of Salton, there is reason to believe, fell a prey to the greed of some one or other of the local aristocracy; and not until beyond the commencement of the seventeenth century, was even a scanty portion of them restored to their original sacred objects. In 1633, when, on the temporary establishment of Episcopacy, the Bishopric of Edinburgh was erected, we find that the church of Salton, with all its civil and ecclesiastical rights, was transferred to the metropolitan see. In 1643, when Sir Andrew Fletcher acquired the property, it is probable that the presentation to the living was also conveyed. The right does not, however, appear to have been exercised by any of his successors till 1760; since which period it has continued to be enjoyed by the family of Fletcher.†

The situation of the present parish church is extremely advantageous, being in the very centre of the parish, and in the most populous village it contains. No individual is thus more distant than two miles from the place of public worship, while nearly four-fifths of the inhabitants are within a mile. The period of the original erection of the church is unknown. In 1805, it underwent such extensive repairs that the present building may be considered as almost entirely new; part of the interior only of the former walls remains, and has been newly faced with neatly wrought rubble stone. The figure of the church is that of the cathedral cross; the tower and spire rising from the choir; and the pulpit, which is just in the centre of the cross, looking down the nave. The whole of the interior is painted, and has an air of great neatness and comfort. The style of architecture of the present building may be described as the mixed, or modern Gothic. At the period of the repair already mentioned, the external aspect of the church was beautified

* Chalmers' Caledonia, ii. 529-30.

† In 1646, the first vacancy after Sir Andrew's purchase of the property, he did not present. In regard to the next vacancy in 1659, there is no Presbyterial record. In 1665, the Crown presented. In 1696 the induction proceeded on a *call* by "the laird of Salton, the other heritors, and whole elders."

by the erection—at the entire expense of the late liberal patron, General Fletcher,—of a handsome spire, springing from a low battlemented tower, and rising to the height (from the level of the ground) of 90 feet. In its general appearance, our village sanctuary more nearly resembles the sacred structures which so frequently adorn the hamlets of England, than those less tasteful erections with which the parsimony of heritors has too often disfigured, and not embellished the parishes of Scotland. The number of sitters accommodated in the church is about 400; it is, therefore, amply sufficient for the present population. The manse was erected in 1805, and is, on the whole, in good repair. The extent of the glebe is five acres Scottish, and is worth about L. 15 per annum. The amount of the stipend is, in Linlithgow measure, 16 bolls *wheat*, 120 do. *meal*, and 120 do. *barley*, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. For crop and year 1834, the only year of the present minister's incumbency, the value of the stipend was, exclusive of the sum allotted for communion elements, L 246, 10s.*

* In 1665, the stipend was L. 33, 2s. 6d. Sterling, together with 11 bolls, 2 pecks, 2 lippies of wheat: 11 bolls, 2 pecks, 2 lippies of bear: and 22 bolls, 1 firloft, 1 peck, and 3 lippies of meal. In 1755, it amounted to L. 84, 10s. 6d., and in 1798, to L. 155, 3s. 8d. Sterling. In the ancient *Taxatio* the church of Salton was rated at thirty merks.

The following is a list of the incumbents of the parish of Salton as far back as I have been able to trace them.

In 1488, when the church of Salton was attached to the Abbey of Dryburgh, the incumbent appears to have been a person of the name of Dewar, who also held the office of dean, as he is termed, (Parl. Records, 343-53) “Dene Dewar.” From this period till the era of Presbytery, I have not been able to trace any of my clerical predecessors. After the Reformation no stated minister appears to have been appointed till about the beginning of the seventeenth century. Until that period, it would appear, from some incidental notices in the records of Presbytery, that the minister of the adjoining parish of Pencaitland had some share in the pastoral superintendence of Salton. It is unquestionable that, in 1601, Salton was still without a regular minister, as in the instructions given by the presbytery to their commissioners to the Assembly for that year, there is one obviously referring to “unplanted kirks,” in these words, “Saltoun kerk to be rememberit.” It is probable that the first incumbent after the Reformation commenced his ministry about 1605 or 1606. From that period the succession is regular.

1606 (about) Archibald Livingstone: died, August 1632. 1633, Jan. 2, Richard Brown: deposed for speaking against the Covenant, 1644. 1646. Sept. 23, Archibald Douglas translated from Baro: died 1658. 1659, Jan. 29, Patrick Scougall, translated from Leuchars: translated to Bishopric of Aberdeen, April 1664. 1665, Jan. 29, Gilbert Burnett: translated to Glasgow, Nov. 1669. 1670, April 11, James Graeme: demitted his charge by refusing to subscribe the Test Act, Dec. 1681. 1684. † August, Archibald Douglas: died March 1696. 1696, Sept. 24, Archibald Lundie: died 4th Nov. 1759. 1760, Nov. 6, Patrick Bannerman, translated from Kinnoul: died 31st Dec. 1790. 1791, Sept. 22, Andrew Johnston: died 23d Sept. 1829. 1830, April 22, Robert Buchanan, translated from Gargunnoch: translated to Glasgow, 13th Aug. 1833. 1834, April 10, Robert Kerr Hamilton.

† From December 1681 to January 1683 there was no public worship in the church of Salton. At the latter date Mr Douglas was admitted interim preacher, which office he filled till his ordination.

The whole adult population, with the exception of thirty persons, are members of the Established Church; and of these thirty, five are Episcopalians, who regularly attend the parish church. Divine service is in general numerously attended; and although, as mentioned above, the amount of church accommodation is more than what is legally required, yet, so exemplary are the parishioners in this outward observance of religious duty, that the church is not at present sufficient to accommodate all who are in the habit of attending. During about half of the year, there are two diets of public worship every Sunday; during the remainder, there is one of somewhat longer duration. There are, besides, services on week-days, amounting, in the course of the year, to about thirty.

The average number of communicants admitted at each of the three last half-yearly celebrations of the sacred ordinance is 7. The present gross amount is 306. The sacrament has, for the last four years, been dispensed twice a-year, on the first Sabbaths of February and July.

The brief period of the incumbency of the present minister does not permit him to form any extensive average in regard to the amount of charitable collections. During the last sixteen months, there have been two congregational collections for religious and benevolent purposes, the average amount of each of which was L. 9, 7s.

Religious Societies.—There are two societies in the parish for the promotion of religious objects. One, based on principles of a catholic nature, has for its object the dissemination of evangelical religion at home and abroad, irrespective of the interests of sect or party. It is yet in its infancy, having been instituted only during the present year. Its annual income cannot, therefore, be estimated, but the number of its members is considerable, and daily increasing. The other is of longer standing, and has been more exclusively employed in promoting the interests of dissent; it has latterly been on the decline, and has now few supporters in the parish.

Education.—There are two schools in the parish. Of these, the parochial school is situated in the village of East Salton, the central point of the parish. The branches of education taught in it are, English, English grammar, geography, history, arithmetic, writing, French, and Latin. All these departments of education are conducted by the parochial teacher with ability and efficiency. The

expense of education per quarter is, for English and grammar, &c. 3s. with the addition of writing and arithmetic, 5s., and with that of Latin, 6s. The parochial schoolmaster's emoluments as teacher are, from Bishop Burnett's fund, L. 6; legal salary, L. 34, 4s. 5d.; school fees, &c. L. 20; three roods of ground, L. 2; total L. 62, 4s. 5d.

The other school is situated in the village of West Salton. The branches of education taught in it are English, English grammar, arithmetic, writing, book-keeping, and the elements of land-surveying. These branches of instruction are likewise well taught. The expense of tuition is the same as in the parochial school. The teacher's emoluments are, from Bishop Burnett's fund, L. 20; school fees, L. 20; per centage as heritors' clerk, L. 8; one and a-half acre of land bestowed by the late General Fletcher, value L. 4, 10s; total L. 52, 10s.

The school-house at West Salton is a neat and spacious building, erected by General Fletcher about thirty years ago. The parish school-house is not so large nor so commodious, and would require to be considerably increased in size. The parochial teacher's house possesses the legal accommodation.

In each of the schools, in addition to the above-mentioned branches of education, the Holy Scriptures are daily read, and the Shorter Catechism taught. The meetings are opened and closed with prayer. The following is the state of attendance.

				<i>E. Salton.</i>	<i>W. Salton.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Maximum attendance,	-	-	-	70	80	150
Minimum do.	-	-	-	58	66	124
Average,*	-	-	-	66	75	142
Proportion of <i>maximum</i> attendance to population of parish,					-	5 ¹ / ₁₀
Proportion of <i>average</i> do. to do.				-	-	5 ¹ / ₁₀

I am not aware that there is any inhabitant in the parish upwards of fifteen years of age who has not been taught to read and write. Between the ages of six and fifteen there is none of either sex who cannot read, and only a very few who have not yet begun to be taught to write.

There is a Sabbath school taught in the church, attended by 125 children. Of these, 30 are beyond the age of attendance at the day schools. If they be added to the numbers already mentioned, the gross amount of young persons in the parish receiving

* The reason why the average is stated higher than the medium between the maximum and minimum, is because the maximum attendance continues for a much longer portion of the year than the minimum; to estimate which, therefore, a proportionally higher average must be taken.

instruction, *daily and weekly*, will be 180: a large proportion to a population of 790, being at the rate of about 1 in $4\frac{1}{11}$ of the whole inhabitants.

Libraries.—At Salton-Hall, there is a fine library of upwards of 5000 volumes, consisting of works of general literature, but containing few of more recent date than the middle of the last century. Amongst its literary curiosities, may be mentioned a small folio copy, of the original edition of “Locke on Human Understanding,” with the words “Andrew Fletcher, from the Author,” written on the title-page, probably either by the philosopher or the patriot. Allusion has already been made to the library mentioned in Bishop Burnett’s will “for the minister’s house and use.” It appears to have been originally commenced by a person of the name of Norman Leslie, probably about the year 1650. Who this person was, I have not been able satisfactorily to ascertain. A Norman Leslie, a preacher of the Gospel, is mentioned in the records of the presbytery of Haddington, in 1644, during a vacancy in the living of Salton, as the person whom, along with a Mr Mill, the congregation wished to hear as candidate for the church; but neither of these were permitted to preach. It is not improbable that this was the person in question, and as he appears from the presbytery records to have been well known to Sir Andrew Fletcher and the parishioners, we may suppose him to have been a resident in the parish or its neighbourhood,—who was interested in its welfare, and who, although not permitted to become its pastor, was generous enough to devote a part of his own literary possessions to the benefit of those who should in future enjoy that office. In all the oldest volumes in the library his name is written, and beneath it the words *ὅν αἰσχροπερδῶς, ἀλλὰ προθυμῶς*. Is it too fanciful, from this to conjecture that, during the long vacancy in question, he might have voluntarily and gratuitously ministered to the spiritual necessities of the parish, and have thus recorded his disinterested labours? But this is mere conjecture. At the time of Bishop Burnett’s induction, the library appears to have contained 145 volumes. From him, it received considerable additions; and from the year 1760, when his bequest first became available, it has been augmented by each successive incumbent, though, in some instances, it must be confessed, not with all the judiciousness of choice which might have been expected. It now contains 862 volumes, consisting chiefly of works on theology, with some in classics and history, and a few in polite literature.

About a year ago, a library was begun to be formed for the use of the Sabbath scholars. It now consists of 130 volumes, chiefly of works of a religious character. They are eagerly read by the young people, and in many instances by their parents also. It is to be hoped that, under the Divine blessing, this may be found a means of advancing the moral and religious welfare of the young, who appear in general, from the commencement of this little institution, to have imbibed a greater desire for serious and profitable reading. A branch of the East Lothian Itinerating Libraries is also established in the parish. For the past year, the number of subscribers amounted to 22.

Friendly Societies.—There are two societies of this kind in the parish. One, established upwards of thirty years ago, consists at present of 200 members, and has funds to the amount of L. 1000. Of this sum L. 700 are lent on private security at 4 per cent. and L. 300 are in a bank at $2\frac{1}{2}$. The annual subscription of each member is 6s. 6d. The present annual income of the society, therefore, including interest and subscriptions, is L. 100, 10s. For the last year, its disbursements amounted to L. 74, 18s. 3d. The average number of individuals receiving relief is 23. The following is the scale by which its disbursements are regulated: In the first three months of sickness, the member receives 5s. per week; for the next three, should his illness continue, 4s.; for the three thereafter, 3s.; and for the remaining three, 2s.; and should his indisposition be protracted beyond the year, 1s. 6d. a-week thereafter. On the death of a member, L. 2, 10s. are given for funeral expenses, and 10s. on the death of a child under twelve years of age. An allowance of 15s. per annum is bestowed on the widows of members as long as they continue unmarried. This society is in a very prosperous condition, and, as is evident from the number of members, has many contributors beyond the limits of the parish.

The other society is formed on a somewhat different principle, but is not less popular than the former. It differs from the other in being a yearly and not a permanent association. Each member subscribes from 1s. 2d. to 3s. 2d. weekly. The twopences form the fund whence the members in distress are relieved, and at the end of every year, a general distribution takes place, when each member receives back the amount he has subscribed in shillings, and a portion of the surplus, if there be any, of the weekly pence. The society thus combines, in some measure, the principle of the savings bank with that of the friendly association. Its scale of

relief is nearly the same as that already mentioned. Since January 1827, when this association was instituted, till the present year, the number of its members has increased from 45 to 146.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of persons at present receiving regular parochial aid is 15, being at the rate of about 1 in 53 of the whole population. The average weekly allowance to each of these paupers is 1s. 9d. For some years past there has been a regular assessment, the amount of which at present is L. 60, exclusive of L. 20 for the guardianship and support of a lunatic. The amount of church door collections and mortcloth dues for the year ending April 1835, was L. 18, 11s. 11½d., and when to this is added the sum of L. 10 from Bishop Burnett's bequest, the whole annual expenditure for parochial purposes will be L. 88, 11s. 11½d. There does not appear to be, I regret to say, any reluctance or indisposition on the part of the poor to seek parochial aid. Formerly, I am informed, it was not so. At one time, it was difficult to get parents to solicit for their children the benefits of the Burnett fund, but now the number of applications in general exceeds that of vacancies; and, with few exceptions, the same change has taken place in regard to the application for general parochial relief. The existence of a legally claimable provision will, it is to be feared, tend everywhere more or less to produce its usual pernicious effects on the natural benevolence and moral independence of the people.

Inns.—There are three persons in the parish licensed to retail spirits; but there are only two public-houses, neither of which, I am happy to say, have for some time been much frequented.

Fuel.—The inhabitants are well supplied with this important necessary of life. Coals are cheap, and easily procured from the adjoining collieries, chiefly of Pencaitland. They cost, including carriage, 5s. 6d. per cart of 12 cwt. Wood is also not unfrequently used for fuel. Mr Fletcher, with considerate kindness, permits the inhabitants of the parish who choose,—to gather fuel, at different times in the year, from the thinnings of the great Salton wood; a permission which often serves to cheer the poor man's hearth during the inclemency of winter.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The chief improvements in the agricultural condition of the parish which have been effected since the date of last Statistical Account (1792) are,—the introduction of the new manures, by which a much greater amount, as well as a superior quality, of produce

is now raised; the adoption of the improved system of tile-draining; and the consolidation of the numerous small farms which previously existed into a lesser number of larger ones. The fences and inclosures are also much better kept than formerly, and in no part of the country are they superior either in appearance or efficiency. The parish roads are likewise greatly improved, and at all times afford a safe and easy means of communication.

The comforts of the people have here, as elsewhere, been increased by the increased cheapness of the commodities in general requisition. In a moral point of view, the removal of the public works already mentioned has had its effect in altering, and in some degree, it is believed, in improving, the character of the population. The chief, and almost only social vice which still exists is that of illicit connexion—a vice, it is to be feared, unhappily prevalent in almost all the rural districts of Scotland. The secondary causes to which, it appears to the writer of these remarks, the prevalence of this vice in this part of the country is chiefly owing, are, in the *first* place, the very inadequate accommodation afforded by the dwellings of the peasantry, few or none of which contain more than a single apartment, in which the whole members of the family, although of opposite sexes, are obliged habitually to reside; a circumstance, it is obvious, which must naturally produce a disregard to the modesty of domestic intercourse, and consequently lead to a relaxation of social morals: and, in the *second* place, the too general practice of employing young females in out-field work, where they are associated with persons of the opposite sex, and where unsuitable intimacies are too frequently easily formed. Both of these causes it is in the power of individuals almost entirely to remove; and to the means of doing so the attention of the proprietor and the agriculturist cannot be too seriously directed.

September 1835.

PARISH OF ORMISTON.

PRESBYTERY OF DALKEITH, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES BANNERMAN, MINISTER.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries, Extent.—THE parish of Ormiston is bounded by Pencaitland on the east; Humbie on the south; Cranston on the west; and Tranent on the north. It is about 5 miles in length, and very irregular in breadth, varying from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile; its narrowest part being on the eastern extremity; and its broadest at the centre. It contains an area of 5 square miles English, and has some resemblance to a horse-shoe winding about Pencaitland on the north, west, and south.

Name.—It was originally possessed by a family of the name of Orme; hence the name of the parish. In 1648 the barony of Peaston, or Paiston, as it is uniformly written in the old records, was disjoined from Pencaitland and annexed to Ormiston.

Topographical Appearances.—The general appearance of the parish is flat and low. The extensive woods about Ormiston Hall, blended with those of the adjoining estate of Fountainhall, the patches of wood in different places, and the hedge-row trees over its whole extent, give it a very rich and beautiful appearance. These circumstances, however, prevent that free circulation of air which is so favourable to the crops.

Meteorology.—It appears, from observations regularly made by the gardener at Ormiston Hall in 1821–22, at 10 P.M. that the thermometer in December and January twice reached 31° each month, and was not lower in the course of the season. Its greatest height, that year, was in the beginning of June, when the thermometer stood for some days at 68° and $68\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. It reached the same height about the end of July. Its range during the months of June and July, was from 49° to $68\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$. In 1822–23, the thermometer ranged for several days in the end of December from 24° to 29° , and from 12th to 28th January, from 22° to 30° . In June and July that year it ranged from 44° to 63° . Its greatest elevation was on 12th August, when it rose

* Drawn up by the former incumbent, the Rev. John Ramsay.

to 64°. In 1827–28, the observations were made at nine o'clock A. M. and P. M. : that season, the range of the thermometer during the months of December and January was from 28° to 51°. It was seldom lower than 32°. Its range in June and July was from 46° to 68°, which was the highest point that season. The range of the barometer that year was from 28.5 to 30. But it was chiefly from 29.1 to 29.5.

From a register of the winds kept at the same place it appears that, from 20th December 1822 to 29th January 1823, the wind was easterly, with the exception of six days. The most prevailing wind, however, was S. W. and W. In 1821 the wind was easterly in the months of April and May, but in the other months the south wind prevailed. In January and February 1828, there were three weeks of east wind, but in the course of the year the S. W. was by far the most prevailing. From that quarter, too, the greatest rains usually proceeded.

Hydrography.—The parish is every where well supplied with water, abounding in springs of different qualities. Some of them contain a considerable quantity of iron. Others, proceeding from lime rock and gravel, are of a softer quality. Both of these kinds are found sometimes within a few yards of each other. It is worthy of notice, that in the village of Ormiston, there is a spring, which has been long used as a draw-well, containing a considerable portion of iron. Several old men who were accustomed to use the water of that spring have been afflicted with gravel complaints, while such complaints are rarely met with in other parts of the parish. Whether, and how far the water contributed to these complaints, is a matter that yet remains to be investigated.

The only river in the parish is the Tyne, which runs through it in a north-easterly direction. It rises in Middleton moor, in the parish of Borthwick, about eight miles to the south-west. When it passes Ormiston, it is but a paltry stream, the greater part of it in summer being drawn off to supply the mill. It is occasionally swelled by westerly rains, so as to overflow its banks and cover the adjacent meadows. It is increased, in its progress, by the addition of several streams which fall into it from the south; and, after a course of about twenty miles, flows into the sea a little below Tynninghame, near Dunbar. The bed of the river where it passes Ormiston is upwards of 250 feet above the level of the sea.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The parish abounds with coal and limestone. The coal has been wrought from a very early period,

chiefly in the neighbourhood of Ormiston Hall. This appears from the sinking of the surface in different places. The ground on which the house stands has all been excavated: and in 1812, the servants were, one morning, surprised at seeing a large hole close by the kitchen, which opened into a waste that extended 16 feet below the ground floor of the kitchen. With the view of examining and clearing out this waste, a mine was cut through from the face of the bank, in the ravine called the Haining, close by the house on the north. When this mine in the course of operation was carried near the waste, a great body of water suddenly burst out and forced the miner before it at the risk of his life. The waste was cleared out and solidly built up, a drain being left at the bottom of the different branches of it, to carry off the water,—by which means the house and court were rendered quite secure. This operation required no less than 310 cart load of stones to complete it.

On the south of the Tyne, there are three workable seams of coal, the uppermost of which is from 28 to 30 inches thick. It is not known at what time a large proportion of this coal had been wrought. The second seam is from 30 to 33 inches thick, and is of a good quality. Much of this seam is already wrought out, but there is still a portion remaining in the pleasure grounds, and the large wood to the south-east of the house. The third or under seam is from 33 to 43 inches thick, the working of which is at present going on under many disadvantages. The lower half of its roof is of weak tender blaes, which permit only very narrow rooms to be driven in the coal; and one-half of the seam is fit only for lime coal. These seams have all along been wrought by means of a free level. The elevation of the coal seams is one in sixteen, towards the south-east. No pit has yet been sunk in the low ground near the river, although some of the best informed colliers are of opinion it might be wrought there to great advantage; and were the projected line of road from Pencaitland to Whitehouse mill to be carried through, this change of the road would be at the same time beneficial to Ormiston, and profitable to the proprietor.

On the north of the Tyne, within the parish, the seams of coal are all entire, except some cross workings of small extent, of which no record is to be found. In the year 1822, when a well was sunk in the south corner of a field occupied by the factor, close by the glebe, a seam of coal 4 feet thick was met with, at only a few feet from the surface; but no attempt has yet been made to trace it out.

Lime rocks abound towards the southern extremity of the parish, running nearly from east to west, and dipping towards the north. At what time it began to be wrought I have not been able to ascertain. It appears, however, from an account of the parish in 1627, that at that time it was not known that there was either lime or coal in the parish, or even in the neighbourhood.* Lime is now, however, found in great abundance, all along the direction from Salton to the western extremity of Crichton parish. In the southern extremity of the parish of Ormiston, it has been wrought for a great number of years, and is generally found in eight beds in all about 15 feet thick. The bottom bed is usually found to be of an inferior quality.

There is abundance of freestone in the parish. Several quarries of it had been wrought at different times. One was opened a great many years ago, on the north bank of the glen, to the north of the House of Ormiston Hall. The stone of this quarry was very coarse and friable. From it, the manse and several other buildings were supplied with stones. Another quarry of post-freestone, at the western extremity of the parish, was opened in 1808. The rock of this quarry, which is composed of several strata, is 13 feet thick, and is harder, and of a finer quality than the other. From it, the proprietor is supplied with stones for carrying on his buildings, and in particular, a great proportion of the stones employed in the addition lately made to the House of Ormiston Hall were procured from this quarry.

If we may judge from the quality of the springs, ironstone may be found in different places; but no attempt has ever been made to discover it.†

Soil.—There is a considerable diversity of soils in the parish. A small breadth on either side of the Tyne consists of a light loam on a gravelly bottom. As you proceed from the river, it changes into a stiff clay upon a till bottom. Part towards both the northern and southern extremities of the parish is of a bleak and obdurate quality, but is gradually improving by cultivation. About the village the soil is a light loam upon gravel. In the same tract, westward, bounded by the Tyne on the south, and a small stream on the north, the middle and greater part of it is of a stiff clay,

* "The truth is, there is no other lymestone, nor lymcoill within the parochie but that quhilk with great travell they fetch coming and going eight myles."—Account of Ormiston 1627, sec. 15.

† The author is indebted for much of the information contained in the article geology, to Mr Scott, factor to the proprietor.

and both sides of a light loam of a spongy quality. A similar variety of soils is to be found in the southern and higher part of the parish; a great portion of which by good management has been brought from a barren moor to a state of high cultivation. On the western part of the parish, there is a portion of meadow land, about ten acres on both sides of the Tyne, producing very good natural grass, which is first cut and then pastured. It would appear, that, in ancient times, the inhabitants of Ormiston were supplied with meadow hay from that quarter; for it is stated in the old Account already referred to, that they pay “zeirlic for their wester meadow haye, 280 merkeis.” The present tenant at West Byres lately made an embankment where the river runs along his farm, to prevent its overflowing, and has ploughed up and sown the meadow ground. The experiment has not yet had sufficient time to shew its effects.*

Botany.—The limits of this article will not admit of a particular enumeration of the plants of the parish. A few, however, of the rarer kinds that are indigenous may be mentioned. These are *Scolopendrium vulgare et officinale*, *Iris Pseud-Acorus et fœtidissima*, *Cucubulus Behen*, *Solanum nigrum et vulgatum*, *Cardamine amara et pratensis*, *Adoxa moschatellina*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Pulmonaria officinalis*, *Viburnum Lantana*, *Sium angustifolium*, *Epilobium hirsutum*, *Chrysanthemum segetum*.

Ormiston abounds with excellent gardens, in which all the common fruits are to be found. When the house of Ormiston Hall was enlarged and fitted up for the Dowager Lady Hopetoun, who now occupies it, the half of the garden was taken away and converted into a flower garden; which garden has been well laid out by the present gardener, and contains above 500 species of herbaceous plants, above 110 species of evergreen and deciduous shrubs, and 270 sorts of roses, besides about 70 or 80 sorts of annual flower seeds, and a considerable quantity of Dutch flower roots.

The garden at Ormiston Hall is chiefly taken up with fruit

* Nothing is so hurtful to the crops in this parish as mildew. Whole fields last year were rendered almost useless, and not a season passes without more or less injury being done by it. It is confined to the lower district of the parish, and prevails chiefly in a range along the east, north, and west of the village, beginning at the Tyne, and sweeping in a circuit of about a quarter of a mile broad, round the village to the Tyne again. The prevalence of this local disease about the village of Ormiston has been ascribed to barberry trees, interspersed in the hedge-rows, and also to the confined situation, which is flat and surrounded with numerous hedge-rows on all sides. In order to remedy this great evil, it would be necessary to thin the hedge-rows, and keep the ditches properly cleaned. The late Earl of Hopetoun was decidedly of opinion that the disease originated from the confined situation of the place.

trees; among which some fig trees upon a wall with a southern exposure have long been celebrated for their excellent fruit. The trees are supposed to have been planted by John Cockburn, the proprietor, about the beginning of the last century, and the figs are still reckoned superior to any that are produced in this country.

There are two gardens in the village where vegetables and fruits are reared for sale, a great part of which is carried to Edinburgh market. In the strawberry season, about 200 or 300 pints of strawberries are daily sent thither.*

In the flower garden at Ormiston Hall, there is a remarkable yew tree, which, before the garden was contracted, stood in the middle, but, being now left without the wall, is more exposed to view. This tree is without question the largest and finest of its kind in Scotland. Its circumference at the ground when accurately measured in 1824, was found to be 12 feet 8 inches; at two feet above the ground, 11 feet 9 inches; at four feet, 13 feet 10 inches: and at five feet above the ground, the circumference is 17 feet. It spreads beautifully on all sides, the extremities of the lowest branches bending down and touching the ground. It is 29 feet in height, and the surface of the ground covered by it is 59 feet in diameter. The late Earl of Hopetoun was at considerable pains to prevent the rain from lodging among the branches, and corrupting it; it is undoubtedly of very great age.† It is still in great vigour; and comparing it, as it is at present, with what it was forty years ago, it seems to grow something less than an inch every year.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There was lately found in the Register Office at Edinburgh, an account of the parish of Ormiston, dated 1627, containing some curious and interesting information.

Historical Notices.—The most ancient proprietor with whom history makes us acquainted was Orme. His descendants held Ormiston during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. From them it passed to

* The principal baker several years ago planted a vine, trained it upon his oven and covered it with a glass frame. The experiment succeeded to his utmost expectation, and he is now supplied with grapes equal to those which are reared in our hot-houses. Another baker tried the same experiment with a vine trained on his oven without a glass frame, but the grapes did not arrive at perfection.

† There was found some years ago, among the papers belonging to the Earl of Hopetoun, conveyed to him by the Cockburn family, a lease of a piece of ground in the vicinity, granted by the head of the religious establishment at Ormiston, and signed under the yew tree. It was beautifully written on a piece of parchment which has fallen by,—the date of which, however, according to the recollection of the gentlemen who saw it, was 1474.

the Lindsays, and continued in the possession of that family till 1368. At that time, Sir Alexander Lindsay, who was called Lord, that is Laird of Ormiston, succeeded to the property. He was also proprietor of Paiston and Temple-Hall, and upon the marriage of his only daughter Joan to John, second son to Sir Alexander Cockburn of Cockburn, left to them and their heirs the land and house of Ormiston, the lands of Paiston, Muirhouse, and Temple-hall; and this grant was confirmed by a charter of King David Bruce in 1368. This John and his son were constables of Haddington, which office was for a long time hereditary in the family.

In 1542, Patrick, a descendant of the family, distinguished himself by a gallant defence of the Castle of Dalkeith, against James ninth Earl of Douglas, who had risen in rebellion, on account of the murder of his brother William, the eighth Earl. Cockburn, having obtained the command of the town, put himself at the head of the King's troops, defeated the rebels, though his army was inferior to theirs, and obliged them to retire.

Alexander, son to Sir Alexander Cockburn, born in 1535, having travelled for some years both at home and abroad, for the improvement of his mind, was cut off at the early age of twenty-eight. He was a young man of great promise, and was for sometime under the charge of John Knox, the Reformer, along with two sons of the Laird of Longniddry. Knox in his history speaks of him as possessed of great accomplishments, and he was much esteemed by Buchanan, who wrote two elegies upon his death. In the aisle which was attached to the old church at Ormiston Hall, there is a brazen tablet to his memory, with a Latin inscription in excellent preservation.

About the end of the year 1545, George Wishart, the celebrated reformer, after preaching at Haddington, came on foot with Cockburn of Ormiston, and two of his friends, to the house of Ormiston. In the course of the night, the house was beset by the Earl of Bothwell, who demanded Wishart to be given up to him. Cockburn and his friends, however, refused to comply, till Bothwell gave the most solemn promises that he would keep him in safety, and not give him up to his enemies. Cardinal Beaton was at that time at Elphinston Castle, anxious to get Wishart into his power. Bothwell refused to comply with the Cardinal's demand, and stood to his promise. But he was soon prevailed upon to give him up to the Earl of Arran, at that time governor of Scotland. Arran again, solicited by the Queen Regent, delivered him to the

Cardinal, who carried him to St Andrews in the end of January 1546, where he was executed on the 1st March, in the view of the Cardinal and his friends, who beheld his death from a window of the castle.

Family of Cockburn.—The family of Cockburn, for a long tract of years, occasionally held the office of Lord Justice-Clerk. The first of the family who held it, was Sir John in 1547. He was afterwards appointed a Lord of Session in 1554. The same office was held by Adam in the middle of the seventeenth century. In his time 1657, the lands of Paiston were sold to Robert, afterwards Sir Robert Hepburn of Keith. Adam was member for the county of Haddington, in the Scottish Parliament which sat at Edinburgh, 28th July 1681, and also in that of 1688. He was likewise appointed one of the Scottish commissioners to meet with the English regarding the treaty of Union. He was a man of good understanding, and of great application to business, but of a hot and overbearing temper.

His son John, the celebrated agriculturist, was born about the year 1685. During the life of his father, he sat as a member of the Scottish Parliament, and took an active part in the proceedings connected with the Union of Scotland and England. He afterwards represented the county of Haddington in the British Parliament, and was continued in successive parliaments from 1707 to 1741. But he was chiefly distinguished by his patriotic and benevolent exertions to promote the improvement of his native country.

Scotland, though now equally, if not better, cultivated than England, was at that time far behind the sister kingdom. Mr Cockburn, from his residence in England, was well acquainted with the agricultural improvements that were going on there. He was anxious to introduce them into Scotland, and spared no labour nor expense to accomplish an object so desirable. The method he employed was a remarkable one. Leases were seldom of longer duration than five years, and proprietors had great difficulty in getting proper tenants to cultivate their lands. Mr Cockburn, with a view to encourage his tenants to greater improvements, granted a lease of thirty-eight years duration, with a renewal of it for nineteen years more at the expiry of that term, and so on from nineteen to nineteen years in all time coming, upon their paying a certain sum as a rent or grassum at the end of every nineteen years. All the farms in the barony of Ormiston were let in the same manner

with some slight modifications. Thus some are held upon a tenure of three lives ; in which case, when one dies, the tenant upon renewing it is bound to pay his grassum. If he do not renew it, and one of the two remaining lives fall, he forfeits his lease. An attempt was made, at one time, to set aside those leases, but it did not succeed. Some of them, by agreement betwixt the tenants and landlord, or by neglect of the tenants to fulfil the terms, ran out and reverted to the proprietor. About two-thirds of the barony of Ormiston, however, are still held upon those leases.

At the time the leases were granted, they certainly held out great encouragement to the tenants to improve their lands to the utmost extent, of which they were capable ; but they were highly detrimental to the proprietor ; and now prevent him from carrying on those improvements in the parish to which otherwise he might be disposed. In this plan Mr Cockburn seems to have sacrificed a permanent to a temporary advantage, and discovered a want of foresight, which compelled his son to sell the property, and leave the seat of his ancestors. It is impossible, however, to say how much the stimulus thus given might contribute to the general improvement of the agriculture of Scotland at that time.

In the year 1726, he erected a brewery and distillery at Ormiston. These works were carried on by Mr Wight, one of his tenants, with whom he was in the regular practice of corresponding about country matters, and to whom he gave the most liberal encouragement in conducting such an undertaking. With a view also to promote the growth of flax, he obtained premiums from the Board of Trustees for encouraging its culture, and an annual salary for an established lint-dresser and heckler. He, at the same time, established a school for teaching young girls to spin linen yarn, under the direction of a mistress, who received a suitable salary for her trouble in educating them. And to complete the process, he established a bleachfield, and prevailed upon a person in Ireland, well acquainted with that business, to settle in Ormiston. This was the first bleachfield in this part of the country, probably the second in Scotland. For, before 1730, fine linens were sent to Harlem in Holland to be bleached and dressed. The Board of Trustees readily granted some pecuniary aid in support of this infant manufactory.

To disseminate a spirit for agricultural improvement through the country, in 1736 he instituted a club or society composed of noblemen, gentlemen, and farmers, who met monthly for the pur-

pose of discussing some appropriate question in rural or political Economy. It subsisted above ten years. *

About this time, 1732, he made great improvements in the village, and laid out the fields contiguous to it upon a plan furnished by Mr Lewis Gordon, a land-surveyor, whom he brought from England for that purpose. They were all divided into small portions and enclosed with thorn hedges and hedge-row trees. This plan was extended over the whole barony of Ormiston, by which it was and still is distinguished from all other parishes in the neighbourhood.

Among his other improvements, Mr Cockburn did not overlook the public roads. By his exertions in making them and keeping them in a state of repair, he set an example which has contributed as much as anything else to the prosperity of the country.

About 1741, Mr Cockburn seems to have retired from public life, and to have employed himself in superintending and carrying on those improvements which he had so laudably begun. He died at his son's house at the Navy Office in the year 1747, leaving behind him a name which will be handed down with respect in the parish of Ormiston from father to son for many generations.

His son George, who succeeded him, is no farther deserving of notice than as being the last of that distinguished family. He was appointed a captain of the navy in 1741, and one of the commissioners of the navy in 1756. He died at Brighton in 1770.

Family of Hopetoun.—The family of Hopetoun succeeded the family of Cockburn, in the lands and house of Ormiston. John second Earl of Hopetoun having acquired possession of three farms north of the Tyne some years before, purchased the whole property in 1747. The barony of Paiston had already come into the possession of the family, having been purchased by the tutors of Charles first Earl of Hopetoun, from Robert Hepburn, afterwards Sir Robert Hepburn of Keith, in 1696; so that in 1747 the Earl of Hopetoun became the sole proprietor of the parish.

John second Earl of Hopetoun, who acquired the property of Ormiston, was one of the most eminent men of his time. A sound understanding and a benevolent disposition, united with a very ample fortune, rendered him, during the course of a long life an ornament and a blessing to his country. Though qualified by his abilities and knowledge to fill the first offices of the State, he con-

* See particular account of this Society in the fifth volume of Farmers' Magazine.

stantly resisted every solicitation to take a part in the administration, from a conviction that he could be of more real service to the nation by attending to the improvement of his extensive possessions. The respect he paid to religion gave a peculiar dignity to his character, and secured him the approbation of good men. Being deeply convinced of the truths of the gospel, his piety was exemplary and sincere, and he was regular in his attendance upon public ordinances. His first employment every morning was to read a portion of Scripture, and recommend himself to the protection of the Almighty.

To guard against the danger connected with an education at public seminaries, he had his sons brought up chiefly under his own immediate inspection. Though he was ever ready to relieve the distressed, he gave no countenance to those whose distresses were brought on by idleness, profligacy, and intemperance. The Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh owes much of its present greatness to his generosity, he having contributed no less than L. 400 a-year towards its support. Notwithstanding his residence during a great part of the year in a different part of the country, Ormiston flourished under his patronage and superintendence. He was accustomed to reside eight months of the year at Hopetoun House; the other four months were generally spent at Ormiston, and in excursions to the baths at Buxton. He watched over the interests of the parish, and has left an example worthy of the imitation of all in the higher ranks of society who take an interest in the welfare of their country.

His sons who succeeded him, first James and then John, were distinguished for their talents and their virtues. James was in the practice of residing some months every year at Ormiston Hall; and by the countenance he gave to religion, by his kindness and encouragement to its ministers, and his benevolence and attention to the interests of the people placed under his influence,—he secured their gratitude and esteem.

His brother John, the fourth Earl, upon his succeeding to the family titles and estates in 1816, brought along with him a high reputation as an officer in the army. He resided with his family a year and a-half at Ormiston Hall, while the splendid mansion of Hopetoun House was undergoing some repairs: during which time, he was assiduously employed in superintending and improving his East Lothian possessions. He took a great interest in the public roads, and got the one leading through the parish

very much improved under his own immediate inspection. He gave every encouragement to the tenantry on his estates, and they were not insensible to his kindness. They erected a monument to his memory on Byreshill, which bears testimony to the estimation in which he was held by them. After leaving Ormiston in 1818, he never again resided there. He died at Paris in 1823, lamented not only by his family and the tenantry on his extensive estates, but by the nation at large as a public benefactor and a model of disinterestedness and integrity. His widow now occupies the house of Ormiston Hall.

He was succeeded by his son the present Earl, who gives promise of the same benevolent dispositions by which his family has been all along peculiarly distinguished.

The Earl of Hopetoun, sole proprietor, has in his possession several plans or surveys of the parish; in particular, an old plan of Ormiston by Lewis Gordon in 1731: a plan of the village of Ormiston, also by Lewis Gordon,—besides a large plan of the barony of Ormiston, in 1742 by the same. There are a great many letters in the possession of Mr Wight's family chiefly relating to the agricultural improvements carried on by John Cockburn.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers are very imperfect. Some of them, according to tradition, being in the possession of one of the elders, who was tenant of East Mains, were consumed when the house of East Mains was burnt. The earliest date of those that remain is April 30, 1637. There is a blank from 1689 to 1730, supposed to have been occasioned by the loss of those that were burnt. From 1730 to the present day, they are complete and regularly kept.

Antiquities.—There is an old cross in the centre of the village. It seems to have been connected with a Roman Catholic chapel, which, about the beginning of the last century, stood where the cross now is, extending across the street from north-west to south-east. That chapel was then used as the school-house, and one of the oldest inhabitants, now dead, told me he was educated there. Several of the parish records are dated in that school-house. The cross is still in good preservation. About six years ago the stones at the base were much decayed, and it was in some danger of falling; to prevent which, it was substantially repaired by means of a subscription, and is now in a state to stand for ages. *

At the southern extremity of the parish, about three miles from

* The MSS. contain an account of some minor antiquities.

the Tyne, are the remains of an old camp of a circular form, supposed to be Danish or British. Its form sufficiently indicates, it was not Roman. And as the Danes, according to Chalmers, (*Caledonia*, Vol. ii. p. 465,) never penetrated into the county of East Lothian, it was probably British. Twenty years ago, before the field where it is situate was ploughed up, two trenches with which it was surrounded were very distinctly marked: for several years, however, the field has been under the plough, and they have almost disappeared. In a few years more, it is likely not a vestige will be seen.

East and West Paiston are about half a mile distant from each other. The whole of the intervening space in ancient times seems to have been occupied with houses forming a considerable village. According to tradition, there were once seven farm-houses in that tract. A burying-ground was attached to it, situate betwixt Paiston and Templehall, in which a former tenant is said to have removed several large grave-stones. It has been planted, and the trees are now pretty well grown, and seem to be stronger upon the site of the church-yard than elsewhere. I have not been able to ascertain whether there was a church there. It is probable there was, and that Templehall was the house belonging to the church.

Modern Buildings.—The chief modern building in the parish is Ormiston Hall. The old house in which the family resided, is about 200 yards to the west of the present, and forms part of a court of offices and servants' houses. A part of the principal staircase still remains, leading into an apartment which has been converted into a carpenter's shop. The present mansion-house was built by Mr Cockburn in 1745. Three additions have since been made to it at different times,—the last of which was two years ago, when it was fitted up for the accommodation of the Dowager Countess of Hopetoun, who now inhabits it as her jointure house.

III.—POPULATION.

There are no data by which the ancient state of the population can be ascertained. About the middle of the last century, it was 810.

In 1790, the population was	863
1801, - - -	766
1811, - - -	727
1821, - - -	779
1831, - - -	838

In an account of the parish given into the Presbytery in 1649 by Mr John Sinclair, minister, he states the number of communicants

The annual average of births for the last 7 years is 22; of deaths 13; of marriages $3\frac{1}{2}$.

The number of unmarried men, bachelors and widowers above 50 years of age	is	17
women upwards of 45 years of age	- -	49
families in the parish	- -	194
chiefly employed in agriculture,	- -	64
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,		38

The great bulk of the people are contented and comfortable in their circumstances. They are, in general, cleanly in their habits, respectful in their manners, industrious, and attentive to the ordinances of religion, and the education of their children. There are some, however, particularly in the village, who, having acquired habits of tippling, disturb, by their irregularities, the peace of a place, which, from its beautiful and retired situation, seems peculiarly fitted to be the abode of tranquillity and happiness.

In consequence of the exertions of Mr Cockburn before noticed, about the beginning of last century, Ormiston was one of the earliest and best cultivated parishes in Scotland. Some of the perpetual leases which he granted have fallen into the hands of the proprietor, but the greater part of them still remain in the possession of the tenants, and form a striking peculiarity in the parish of Ormiston. Of late, several of the farms have been let to subtenants who reside upon the farms, and are acquainted with the most improved modes of husbandry. Only one family of the original tenants now remains in the parish, and it has the perpetual lease of four farms.

The lands that are not on perpetual leases, are let for nineteen years; those connected with the village, for seven, or such a number of

years as may suit the proprietor. In general, the farms are well cultivated, and improvements carried on with spirit by the tenants. In some farms, draining has been practised to a considerable extent, and the operations are still going on.

When the improvements were in their infancy, rape was grown in the parish, but it has long been discontinued. Of late, however, rape-cake or rape dust has come to be pretty much used as a manure, particularly in the upper parts of the parish, and after several years trial, has been found to succeed. And it would appear from the increasing demand for it, that it is coming more and more into use. Lime has been much used for a great number of years. There is one kiln in the parish and several in the vicinity. Byre and stable dung is the only other manure employed.

The number of imperial acres in the parish is 3245. Of these 2938 are in cultivation, 132 in meadow and constant pasture, 5 waste, and 170 under wood, of which 132 are in the barony of Ormiston, and 37 in the barony of Paiston. The trees are of various kinds, but a great proportion of them are oak. Of the land in cultivation the average number of acres in fallow is 320.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land is very low. What is let on perpetual leases is about 6s. per acre. What has been let lately on common leases averages about L. 2, 5s. per acre. The average rate of grazing for the year is about L. 4 per ox or cow, and 18s. per ewe or full-grown sheep.

Live-Stock.—There are few sheep reared in the parish. The farmers buy in, occasionally, what quantity they need of the Cheviot breed crossed with the Leicester, and of the black-faced. Black-cattle are not reared, except milch cows, which are chiefly of a crossed breed of the Ayrshire and Angus. The Ayrshire are coming more into use, from their being of a small size, and giving a proportionally large quantity of milk and butter. But no attention is paid to the keeping up of any particular breed. When milch cows are wanted, they are selected wherever they can be found most suitable, without regard to the breed.

Husbandry.—Till lately, most of the farms in the parish were in the possession of non-resident tenants, and there are still several of this description,—a circumstance by no means favourable to the prosperity and improvement of the parish. Some of the village lands even are in this situation. Within these few years, several of the farms of this description have been let to tenants who reside upon their farms, and for whose accommodation very commodious and

even handsome houses have been built. But on some of the farms, Limey-lands, House of Muir, and East Paiston, the dwelling-houses have been allowed to fall into disrepair. The fences in some places are well kept, but in others they are very much neglected,—the hedges going fast into decay, and the ditches and water courses being completely choked up from want of cleaning.

The parish roads have begun to be more attended to than they were; and some of the tenants, by the improvements they have made in them, have done an essential service to the parish, and at the same time materially promoted their own interests.

About twelve years ago, a thrashing-mill was erected by the tenant of the mill lands, which has been let out to the villagers, and been of the greatest service to the place. Before that time, all the grain about the village was thrashed by the *flail*, whereas very little is now thrashed in that way. Several of the tenants have had thrashing-mills erected within these few years; and there is now not a farm of any consequence without one. The tenant of the Murrays, six years ago, erected a steam engine upon that farm for thrashing his crop, which answers the purpose remarkably well. In consequence of these improvements, by which the operations of agriculture are so much abridged, a want of employment in the course of the winter is now beginning to be felt more severely by the labouring classes.

Produce.—The average amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be conjectured, is as follows:

White crops, 5730 imperial quarters, at L. 1, 10s. 4½d.	L. 8702	8	9
Beans and pease, 590 do. L. 1, 14s. 6d.	1017	15	0
Potatoes and turnips, 206 acres at L. 10 per acre,	2060	0	0
Clover grass and hay, 241 do. 180 stones per acre, at 6d. per stone,	1084	10	0
Pasture, 500 acres,	1333	6	8
Produce of gardens,	700	0	0
	<hr/> L. 14898 0 5		

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Village.—The village of Ormiston is the only one in the parish that deserves the name. It stands upon the north bank of the Tyne, at an elevation of 276 feet above the level of the sea. It consists chiefly of a broad street running east and west, with a row of houses on each side, several of them of two stories. Some of these houses are fitted for the accommodation of genteel families, and are occasionally let. The principal houses have all excellent gardens attached to them, several of which are surrounded with stone walls, and stocked with fruit trees and all sorts of vegetables. It contains a population of 335, whereas about forty years ago, when the last Statistical Account was published, the number of

inhabitants was about 600. From that time the population has been constantly decreasing. This circumstance may be easily accounted for. About the middle of the last century, it had a bleachfield, a starch-work, a brewery, and distillery; now, there is no public work of any kind, and little employment for either tradesmen or labourers. It is very healthy, and indeed may be said to enjoy every natural advantage for domestic comfort. Though not a market-town, it is not inconveniently situated with regard to markets, having Haddington on the east, at the distance of about 8 miles, Dalkeith on the west, at the distance of 6 miles, Edinburgh, at the distance of 12 miles. Last winter a corn-market was established at Tranent, which may be of great advantage to the parish of Ormiston. By a late measurement, the distance from the cross to the post-road at Tranent was found to be exactly 2 miles 2 furlongs and 152 feet.

Although the village is well supplied with water, all the principal inhabitants having wells belonging to them, there is no good public well for the accommodation of the poorer classes. There was formerly an open public well in the wynd, which contained at all times an abundant supply of water; but, to prevent the danger of children falling into it, it was covered up about ten years ago, and the water was conveyed by a pipe to the foot of the wynd. This alteration, in respect of the supply of water, has been prejudicial to the inhabitants. The cross stands in the centre, rising $15\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the level of the street.

Means of Communication.—There is a post-office in the village, which is kept up entirely by the inhabitants, every family subscribing a small sum annually, or paying something for every letter and newspaper. It communicates with the post-office at Tranent once a-day, and there receives the letters and newspapers from the London mail.

The turnpike road runs through the parish from north to south for about five miles, and is twice intersected by the parish of Pencaitland. About fifteen years ago, John Earl of Hopetoun, having procured a subscription, and added, himself, what was necessary to complete the work, got three small bridges erected upon the public road in the immediate vicinity of the village, one over a little stream to the north, called the Puddle-burn, where, in floods and meltings of the ice, the road was very much obstructed. The others were built immediately below the mill, about 20 yards distant from each other, where the road was constantly covered by

the water coming from the mill trough, and in frost and the melting of snows was hardly passable even by horses and carriages. Foot-passengers used to go round close by the wall of the mill. The road between them and at both ends was raised to a level with the bridges. This formed one of the greatest improvements that had been made in Ormiston for many years. With the view of keeping the turnpike road in good repair, two additional tolls were erected, one at the church, the other about a mile south of Tranent.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated at the point where the roads from Ormiston and Paiston unite towards the west, about a mile and a-half south-west from the village, and also from the manse, which is in the village. It is within little more than a quarter of a-mile from the western extremity of the parish, three miles from the eastern, and two and a-half from the northern. The old church was more central. It was situate close by the house of Ormiston Hall to the west; and it and the church-yard were both within the orchard of the proprietor. And as Mr Sinclair states, in the account given into the Presbytery, in 1649, the inhabitants had no other way of getting into the church-yard than by the Laird's garden door. The church-yard also was represented as too small for the parish. The aisle attached to it is still standing in pretty good preservation. Were a new church to be built, an excellent situation for it would be found on a field of flat high land immediately to the west of the village. Its present situation is very inconvenient for the minister and the greater part of the population, who are not nearer it than a mile and a-half. It was built in 1696, in a plain style, with a small belfry, and no ornaments. It is cold and damp, and very uncomfortable in winter; but of late has been considerably improved. At first, it was only partially seated, families providing themselves with chairs and stools as they found it convenient. The area in the centre of the church was in that state twenty years ago,—about which time it was filled up with good substantial pews; and it was not till last winter that the seating was complete. It affords accommodation for 300 persons. The seats are all free; some of them are appropriated to particular families, but a considerable proportion are common.

The church-yard is perhaps the smallest in the country, being only about 46 yards by 24, including the church and offering-house. An additional piece of ground was kept in reserve for it by the Earls of Hopetoun, but only a small part of it has been taken in. The soil is a retentive clay and very wet. Mort-safes are used for

the protection of the dead, and are reckoned of a very good construction.

The manse is situate on the north side of the village, towards the east end. In 1779, during the incumbency of the late Mr Colville, the upper flat of the old manse was taken down, and two new flats were built upon it, with a projecting wing behind, of the same height with the rest of the building.

The garden lies to the north and east of the manse, is inclosed with a stone wall, and stocked with fruit trees. There are two tall lime trees at the bottom, planted about the year 1680, by Mr Sinclair, then minister of the parish, which are still in great vigour. The minister has the privilege of a road leading from the back-court, round the garden to the glebe. That road was attempted to be stopped by the neighbouring feuar, but it was secured two years ago by a process before the Sheriff.

The glebe contains about $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres of pretty good land. Originally it lay all behind the garden, divided into three small fields. But about the middle of the last century, the remotest field, some of which was low and marshy, was excambed for another immediately to the east of the street of Ormiston, which is now the best part of the glebe. It is all inclosed, but the fences are getting old and insufficient. There is coal below it, at no great depth; but for want of a level it cannot be wrought without an engine, and therefore is not likely to be turned to any account. The stipend is ten chalders of grain, and L. 41, 13s. 4d. of money, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. From a want of teinds, it would not have been what it now is, had not James Earl of Hopetoun, sole heritor, allowed it to be twice augmented during the incumbency of the late minister, that it might not fall below others in the neighbourhood. The last augmentation was given in 1808.

There are no Dissenting meeting-houses in the parish. The number of families belonging to the Establishment is 168. There are 19 families belonging to the Secession, who frequent different meeting-houses, and a few are connected with no church. Some of the servants in families connected with the Establishment belong to Dissenting congregations, and *vice versa*. The average number of communicants for the last twelve years is 270.

A parish Bible Society was instituted in 1817, the funds of which for some years, upon an average, have amounted to L. 6 a-year. While the greater part of this sum has been generally sent to the East Lothian Bible Society, a small part has always been

given to the Edinburgh Missionary Society. A part of the funds also is reserved for purchasing Bibles and Testaments to the poor of the parish who need them.

The ordinary collections at church amount to about L. 12 a-year; besides which, collections are occasionally made for religious and charitable purposes, amounting to about L. 15 a-year.

Education.—There are, at present, three schools in the parish. —The parochial school in the village of Ormiston, the master of which has a salary amounting to L. 29, 18s. 9½d. He has also L. 1, 7s. 9½d. of mortified money, with a house and garden. The house has two flats. The school occupies the under: the upper, which is divided into several apartments, serves for the dwelling-house. The garden being smaller than the law requires, the schoolmaster receives an adequate compensation for the deficiency. At present, the fees received amount to only about L. 15 a-year. But they may easily amount to more than double that sum.

There is another school at Paiston, three miles south from the parish school. It is of very long standing, being mentioned in the earliest records of the parish. The schoolmaster has L. 1, 5s. yearly of mortified money, a free house and school-house, and a small sum of money as a salary given gratuitously by the proprietor,—besides the school fees, which upon an average amount to betwixt L. 15 and L. 20 a-year.

A school was instituted two years ago by the Dowager Countess of Hopetoun, at House of Muir, a small village chiefly inhabited by colliers. The schoolmaster has a free house, a small salary from her Ladyship, and the school fees. It has succeeded remarkably well, and been of great benefit to the parish.

From there being three schools in such a small parish, it is evident the means of education must be accessible to all. None are precluded by distance from attending school, and if any parents are so poor as not to be able to pay for the education of their children, the school fees are paid for them. It is not wonderful, therefore, that there should be no children betwixt six and fifteen years of age who cannot read or write. Above that age, there are several who cannot write, but very few who cannot read.

But though much has, of late, been done and written to promote education, it does not appear that the schools in this neighbourhood at least are actually more thriving than they were a century

ago. From the parish record, it appears that the schools of Ormiston and Paiston were both in a flourishing state about the beginning of the last century; that great attention was paid to the instruction of the young; and great care taken that parents should have their children educated. From the record, it also appears that, in 1683, there was a library belonging to the parochial school, consisting of 60 books in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin, as well as English. It was then taught by Mr James Grierson, who was afterwards ejected from his office. About that time, Principal Carstairs received his education in the house of Mr Sinclair, then minister of the parish.

Libraries.—For some years the parish has been supplied with itinerating libraries from Haddington. One is stationed at Ormiston, another at Paiston. They continue in their stations two years. They are then returned, and new ones are sent in their places. The great advantage of these libraries has hitherto been, that the books are lent out gratis, and the libraries are frequently shifted. A regulation, however, has just been made, that, during the first year of their station, payment shall be taken for the reading of the books. This circumstance has produced a desire among some of the people to have a parochial subscription library, which, if once begun and well supported, may become in a few years a great acquisition to the place.

There is a library belonging to the Friendly Association or Rogue Money Club, instituted for the protection of property,—which is kept in the school-house under the charge of the master. This society originated in 1784, with some respectable persons residing in Ormiston and the vicinity, who formed themselves into a society for the purpose of preventing depredations and disturbances, and promoting the police and good order of the place. The Earl and Countess of Hopetoun were among the original subscribers. It has, however, very much degenerated from what it originally was, and is confined in its operations to the carrying on of prosecutions against those who have committed depredations upon the property of the members. A part of the funds has been laid out in the purchase of books, and in 1817 a portion of the subscription money was set apart for that purpose alone. The library now consists of about 100 volumes, which are lent out to the subscribers.

Savings Bank.—An attempt was made eighteen years ago to establish a savings bank in the parish. Every thing was arranged

upon the most favourable terms for receiving the little sums which the poor were able to spare for it. But a prejudice was excited against it, and it did not succeed.

Poor.—The average number of persons upon the roll is 15, who receive upon an average about 1s. 9d. a-week each. Some require to be supported entirely, others require only a small assistance. But besides those who are permanently upon the roll, aid is occasionally given to some who are not paupers, but from distress or misfortunes are reduced to temporary want.

The fund for the support of the poor arises from collections at the church, mortcloths, assessments, and occasional donations. The annual collections at church amount to from L. 10 to L. 12 a year; the mortcloths to L. 3; the assessment is generally L. 60, and sometimes L. 80. The first assessment was laid on in 1757. For several years after, it was resorted to only occasionally. But since the beginning of the present century, it has been regularly imposed every half year: and about 1810 it rose so high as L. 100 a-year. Previous to 1813 there were funds belonging to the poor amounting to L. 180. This money was lodged with the Earl of Hopetoun upon two bonds, at an interest of L. 5 per cent. At that time, James Earl of Hopetoun, being in a very poor state of health, and the estate at his death going to the heir of entail, who was different from the heir of line,—his trustees refused to allow any more assessments till the poors' money in the Earl's hands was all exhausted. The kirk-session was thus obliged to expend the whole stock belonging to the poor, which amounted to L. 9 a year. There is also a house in Ormiston burdened with an annual feu-duty of L. 4, 9s. for the benefit of the poor. From these sources, arise the regular supplies for the support of the poor. But besides the regular supplies, there has been for several years an extraordinary collection in the course of the winter for supplying needy families with coals and meal and other necessaries. The poor also obtain every year from an institution at Haddington a supply of flannel clothing. The Earl and Countess of Hopetoun are subscribers to this institution, and have granted permission to the minister of Ormiston to draw from it upon their joint subscriptions such flannel clothing as shall be found needful for the poor in the course of the winter. In addition to all which, the Dowager Lady Hopetoun is in the constant practice of giving occasional charity, and contributing whatever is necessary in cases of distress.

The poor are not insensible to the benefactions they receive.

The allowance given them is indeed scanty, but they know it cannot be otherwise; and when not treated with undue rigour they learn to submit to it without murmuring. The feeling of delicacy, however, in receiving parochial aid, that so long subsisted in this country, is now almost extinguished. The labouring classes are not unwilling to receive parochial aid whenever they can obtain it; and it sometimes happens that even respectable tradesmen are not ashamed to have their aged parents put upon the poors' roll. They are in general careless in laying up for future want, and when distress comes they naturally fall a burden upon the parish.

The common practice among the labouring classes of living up to their incomes promotes pauperism. The evil in this country has already grown to a considerable magnitude; and nothing but the strictest economy and care in the management of the funds can prevent it from increasing. In former times, the people were regular in contributing to the collections at church, and thus provided a fund for the support of their indigent brethren. They never thought of attending divine service without carrying their offering along with them. And in many parts of the country this practice still exists, and no assessments are required. But in this district, a great part of the congregation give nothing, and the collections in general are miserably small. About a century back too there were fewer upon the poors' roll, and these were better supported than they are now. The industrious poor are better fed, and better clothed, and have better wages than formerly; but they are less economical and less provident, and consequently more frequently exposed to privations and want.

Alehouses.—In this parish, small as it is, there are no less than seven houses which have obtained a license to sell ardent spirits. There is only one public-house where stabling can be obtained, and that of an inferior description. Were there one good inn with proper accommodation for horses, it might be of great benefit to the place. It might diminish the number of tippling-houses, and by its superior accommodation, contribute to the prosperity of the village. At present, the small public-houses are certainly unfavourable to morals. But the evil of tippling does not proceed altogether from licensed houses. In private ones, tippling is carried on to a great extent. The inmates go to the shop and bring in whatever quantity of spirits is wanted, at the joint expense of those who are present; and in this way disorders and abuses frequently take

place, of all which, females and young children are witnesses and partakers.

Fuel.—Coal is the only fuel made use of in the parish. The inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Ormiston Hall are supplied from a pit wrought by the proprietor. Those in the village and vicinity obtain their chief supply from pits about a mile and a-half to the north, in the parish of Tranent. The price of a cart of coals of 12 cwt. is from 4s. to 4s. 6d.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the last Statistical Account was published, the public road running through the parish, and also the private roads, have been very much improved. This circumstance, with a more liberal supply of manure collected from different quarters, has produced a proportional improvement in the agriculture. At that time, the village was in a more thriving state on account of some public works carried on in the place. All these have been given up for a number of years, and there is a great want of employment for the labouring poor, especially in winter, when many are thrown completely idle, and reduced to great straits. On such occasions, however, the family of Hopetoun has never been backward to apply a remedy for an evil which, in the present state of society, can hardly be prevented.

Revised September 1835.

PARISH OF YESTER.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN THOMSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE ancient name of the parish was *St Bothans* or *St Bathans*,—the name of a saint who, if we may judge by the vestiges of him which still remain in various parts of the country,* was once held in high and general estimation. The change of the name from *St Bathans* to *Yester*, seems to have been made soon after the Reformation, which, among many other good results, has

* Abbey St Bathans, and several villages in Ireland.

destroyed the popular reverence for *pseudo-saints*. This change, however, as appears from the Presbytery records, was not generally adopted till about the year 1668. *Yester* is the ancient name of the Marquis of Tweeddale's estate, which lies chiefly within the parish. The name appears to be of Cambro-British origin. In that language, the word *Ystrad* or *Yestred* signifies a *strath* or *vale*. This name, afterwards corrupted to *Yester*, is very expressive of the local aspect of the parish, which forms a strath on the banks of a rivulet called Gifford-water, a tributary of the Tyne. The antiquity of the present name is shewn by the following circumstance, that Hugh de Gifford (to whom William the Lion granted the baronial domains of Yestred or Yester in the twelfth century) "gave to the monks of Melros a toft in his village of *Yestred*."* The parish is popularly called Gifford, from a village in it of that name.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish is about 6 miles long from east to west, and about 5 in breadth, including an extent of 2 miles in the Lammermoors. It contains 7080 Scots acres, or nearly 14 square miles. Its form is nearly that of an oblong square, bounded by the parishes of Garvald, Haddington, Bolton, Humble, and Lauder.

Topographical Appearances.—The Lammermoor hills run along the south side of the parish. They are covered with heath, and afford good pasture for sheep. The highest of these is *Lammerlaw*, which is situated in Yester parish. Its height above the level of the sea is about 1700 feet. Near the summit of *Lammerlaw*, is an excellent spring of water; temperature in August 1834 42°, and scarcely at all different in winter. Various small streams descending from these hills, and uniting about a mile from their base, form the Gifford Water † which flows through the strath or *Ystrad* already mentioned. This strath is one of peculiar beauty. Although it is 400 feet above the level of the sea, it is highly cultivated and richly wooded. In the centre or lower part of it, stands the village of *Gifford*, around which extends a circular elevated ridge of fertile land at the distance of about a mile and a-half, which slopes gently toward the lower part, and affords a good shelter from the cold east winds.

* Chalmers' Caledonia, Vol. ii. p. 534.

† It is mentioned in the former Statistical Account, that "this stream was remarkable for a flood on the 4th of October 1775, which carried down most of the bridges in the parish, and a number of trees from Yester; a most unaccountable circumstance, as no extraordinary quantity of rain had previously fallen." The supposition of a *water-spout* will perhaps explain the difficulty.

Soil, &c.—The greater portion of the county abounds in limestone and marl. At Kidlaw, in the south-western corner of this parish, there is a lime quarry; but, owing to its distance from coal, the working of it is rather expensive. There is no stone for building in the parish, no coal, nor gravel, except what is taken from the bed of the river. Formerly there were quarries of hard red freestone of excellent quality at Barra, which is two miles east from Gifford; but they have not been wrought for many years. The soil of this parish, in common with that of East Lothian generally, furnishes a striking instance of the great benefit which results from well directed industry. It is by no means so highly favoured by nature as many other districts which have been less improved. It presents the aspect of an inclined plain, descending northward from Lammermoor towards the sea, and may therefore be considered as in some measure averted from the sun's rays, and exposed to the chilling northern blasts. The soil, too, is generally of that kind in which clay greatly predominates, although in several parishes on the sea coast, and in some of the higher parts of this parish (at Long Yester and Long Newton) a light loam is sometimes met with. A clay bottom, however, forms the principal characteristic of the soil, which is about four-fifths clay, and one-fifth light and gravelly; but a skilful agriculture has in a great measure overcome these disadvantages, and rendered the soil very productive. It ought to be remarked, however, that, notwithstanding the northerly exposure of this parish, the climate is on the whole favourable to the growth of corn; and it has been very much improved of late by draining.

Climate.—As might be expected from our proximity to the Lammermoors, a greater quantity of rain probably falls in this parish than in almost any other in the county. But the heavy falls of rain brought from the Atlantic Ocean by the westerly winds, and which so frequently deluge the West of Scotland, are little known here. The greater part of the clouds brought from the west are attracted and broken by the high grounds between Clydesdale and West Lothian. The few that escape this attraction are broken and divided by the Pentland hills. One part of these proceeds northward by Arthur's Seat, and is wasted in the Frith of Forth; and another is attracted by the Moorfoot hills, and proceeds along that range by Soutra hill and Lammermoor. Some of these clouds, however, from their height, occasionally escape both attractions, and travel eastward by Dalkeith towards the vale of Tyne and the higher

districts of this parish. But from this course they are generally diverted by the Garleton-hills and Traprene Law; and then they take either a southerly direction towards the hills of Lammermoor, or a northerly direction by North Berwick Law to the Frith of Forth. Such is the general course of the western clouds about the beginning of spring; and as the season advances, the quantity of rain from the west is gradually lessened; so that, during the summer and autumn, a west wind is a tolerable security for dry weather. An instance of this occurs at the moment of writing this account. In the forenoon and afternoon of this day, an unusually large quantity of rain fell, the wind blowing with great violence from the south and south-east; but towards evening, the wind has veered round to the west; and at present, the sky, which but lately was darkened with clouds and mist, is clear and serene.

During winter, the wind in every point from the west round by the north to the east occasionally brings snow or rain; but snow seldom remains long on the ground. For some years back, little snow has fallen in this district; and it very seldom happens that we have more than a week of what is called *close weather*.

The spring in this part of the country is generally dry and cold, especially when the wind blows from the east. The cold, however, is by no means so intense as in many parishes in the immediate neighbourhood of this,—which is owing in a great measure to the circular elevated ridge that surrounds the strath of Yester. Occasionally in spring, there are heavy showers of hail or rain from the north-east. During the whole of May, the winds generally blow from some point to the north, with a bright sun, and a dry keen penetrating air, which renders it a trying period to invalids. Notwithstanding this, however, the situation of the parish is remarkably healthy, the air pure and invigorating, the climate generally mild, and “no particular distemper is prevalent.” At this period, the husbandman endeavours to have his fallow, especially on strong land, lying under a cross furrow and in large clods, which are dried so thoroughly by the east winds, that most of the rooted weeds enclosed in them are withered and destroyed.

The weather seldom sets in steadily mild before the end of June. It is a proverbial expression, that the crops upon the clay and the strong land do not often begin to “mend until the nights are turned,” that is, till the summer heats commence.

In summer and the beginning of autumn, the only rainy points are the south and east. Generally the wind sets in from these

points at the change and full moon ; and (as in the case above-mentioned) brings from ten to eighteen hours of continued rain. The latitude being so high as 56° renders the climate, as might be expected, very changeable.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—The names of places, rivers, and habitations in this parish and the neighbourhood, show that it was inhabited in ancient times by the great tribe of British Ottadini. Thus *Garvald* or *Garw-ald* signifies, in the Cambro-British language, the *rough rivulet* ; *Barra* from *Bar*, a height, *Ra'* a fortlet ;—*Yester* or *Ystrad*, a strath. No traces of the Romans now exist in this parish, although it is well known that they subdued the Celtic inhabitants of the district. This appears from the remains of Roman encampments discovered in the neighbourhood. Many vestiges of the Anglo-Saxons remain in the names of places, such as *Lea*, *Law*, *Hope*, *Lammermoor*, &c. This district was for a considerable period under the dominion of the English ; and in 1020 it was ceded by them to the Scottish king. *

In the reign of David I., Hugh de Gifford, an English gentleman, settled in East Lothian, and obtained extensive estates there. He was succeeded by a son of the same name, who rose to eminence under William the Lion, and obtained from that monarch the additional territory of *Yester*. The celebrated castle of *Yester*,—celebrated on account of the *Hobgoblin Hall*,†—was at that time, and long afterwards, the family residence. Hugh de Gifford was of sufficient importance to have his own sheriff, according to the practice of feudal times. One of his descendants, John de Gifford, who lived in the time of Robert Bruce, obtained by marriage the lands of Morham. In 1418, the male heirs of this ancient family having failed, the extensive domains of the Giffords were inherited by four daughters,—the eldest of whom, Johanna, having obtained the estate of *Yester*, transferred it to her husband, Sir William Hay of Locherwart. Thus arose the family of *Yester* and *Locherwart*, who obtained the title of Lord Hay of *Yester* in 1488, that of Earl of Tweeddale in 1646, and that of Marquis of Tweeddale in 1694. In allusion to the circumstance above-mentioned, that a great part of the fortune of this family

* Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, p. 404, observes, “ that the Celtic-British are the earliest names on the map of Lothian ; that the Saxon are the second ; that the Gaelic are the third ; and the English are the fourth,—corresponding to the several successions of the colonizing people.”

† Sir Walter Scott's *Marmion*, Note 3 on Canto iii.

was acquired by marriage, a son of the first Marquis, Lord Charles, made the following verses:—

Aulam alii jactent, felix Domus Yestria nube,
Nam quæ sors aliis, dat Venus alma tibi.

Various accounts have been given of the origin of this ancient family. Buchanan * says that the Hays are descended from the hero of the battle of Loncarty, whose story is well known. The Scots, having been put to flight by the Danes, were met by Hay and his sons, who were ploughing in an adjoining field. Armed with ploughshares, they forced their panic-stricken countrymen to turn back on their invaders. The consequence was that the Danes experienced a signal defeat; and soon afterwards, Hay, for his bravery and patriotism, was raised to the rank of nobility, and obtained a large estate in the Carse of Gowry, “quem (Buchanan adds) adhuc eorum posteri tenent.” This Hay, it is universally acknowledged, was the ancestor of the families of Errol and Kinnoul; and many hold also that he was the ancestor of the family of Tweeddale. Others again affirm that the ancestry of this family was of Norman descent, and settled in Scotland about the year 1200, having previously come from Normandy with William the Conqueror. Let antiquarians decide the question as they best can.

Eminent Men.—John Knox, the Father of the Scottish Reformation, was born in the village of Gifford, in the year 1505. The place of his nativity, indeed, has been questioned; some maintaining that he was born at Gifford-gate, one of the suburbs of Haddington. . But it is easy to show that this opinion is not well founded. †

* *Rerum Scoticarum Historia*, in vita Kennethi Tertii, anno 980.

† We shall shortly state the evidence in favour of both opinions, that the reader may decide for himself: That Knox was born at the village of Gifford, in this parish, is proved not only by the circumstance that this has long been the prevailing opinion, but also by the testimony of *Beza*, his *contemporary* and *friend*. He calls him “*Joannes Cnoxus, Scotus, Giffordiensis*,” (*Imagines illustrium virorum*, Ee. iij. an. 1580,) evidently meaning that he was a native of Gifford. If he had been a native of one of the suburbs of Haddington, would not Beza have called him *Haddingtoniensis*? Spotswood (*History*, p. 265, edit. 1677,) says, that “he was born in *Gifford*, within Lothian,” which statement is confirmed by David Buchanan, Crawford, and Wodrow, (Buchanan’s *Memoir of Knox*, prefixed to the edition of his history, published 1644; Crawford’s *Life of Knox*; Wodrow’s *MS. Collections respecting the Scottish Reformers*, in *Bibl. Coll. Glas.*) On the other hand, Archibald Hamilton (*De Confusione Calvinianæ Sectæ apud Scotos Dialogus*, fol. 64, a. Par. 1577.) says that he was born in Haddington,—and another writer, that he was born “*prope Haddingtonam*.” (*Laingæus De vita, et moribus, &c.* fol. 113, b. Par. 1581,) Hamilton’s testimony possesses little weight. M’Crie observes of him, that “he has retailed a number of gross falsehoods in his work,” and though it may be said, that he was under no temptation to tell a lie in a matter of fact, yet it is not likely that a man of his character would either give himself much trouble to ascertain the truth in his case, or be very scrupulous in adhering to it. The other writer, who says that

The Rev. John Witherspoon, D. D., LL. D., President of the College of New Jersey, in America, was born in the manse of Yester on the 5th of February 1723.* The following notice, though rather lengthened, of this distinguished man, it is hoped, may not be unacceptable. He was lineally descended from John Knox, and was connected with a family of property in the east of Scotland. His father, who was ordained minister of Yester in March 1720, was eminent for his piety, learning, and fidelity as a minister of the gospel. Young Witherspoon was sent at a very early age to the public school at Haddington, where he distinguished himself by his assiduity and proficiency. He was sent, at the age of fourteen, to the University of Edinburgh, where he attracted the particular notice of the professors by his talents and acquirements. At the age of twenty-one he was licensed to preach the gospel; and soon after he was invited to become assistant and successor to his father in the parish of Yester;—but he chose rather to accept a call from the parish of Beith, where he was ordained—with the universal consent of the people. A short time afterwards, he was called to Paisley, where he laboured in the work of the Lord with universal acceptance and great success. During his residence in Paisley he was invited to remove to Dublin, to Rotterdam, and Dundee; but he refused. He was also requested by the Trustees of the College of New Jersey to accept the office of President. He at first declined the offer; but on a second application he complied with it. The finances of the college (which was founded and chiefly supported by private liberality,) were in a low and declining condition when Dr Witherspoon arrived in America; but by his talents, reputation, and exertions, the college was soon raised to a state of great prosperity. Formerly the academical course had been too superficial, and too much tinctured with the dry and unedifying forms of the schoolmen; but Dr Witherspoon introduced all the modern improvements of Europe, and incorporated with the course of instruction a sound and rational metaphysics, equally removed from the doctrines of fatality and con-

Knox was born near Haddington, is called by M'Crie in the first edition of his work, "another of the same kidney" with Hamilton, and therefore entitled to no credit. Few persons, therefore, will be disposed to differ from the late distinguished biographer of Knox, when he says, "I am inclined to prefer the opinion of the oldest and most credible writers, that he was born in the village of Gifford."—M'Crie's *Life of John Knox*, 5th edition, Vol. i. pp. 1, 2. For a more full examination of this point see the Appendix to the volume, Note A.

* It is stated in the accounts of his life that he was born February 5, 1722; but on examining the parish register, I find that he was baptized on the 10th of February 1723. It is not likely that a year would elapse between his birth and baptism.

tingency. Under his auspices, most of the American clergy were educated; and the United States owe to him many of their most distinguished patriots and legislators,—above thirty of his pupils having become members of Congress. In this situation Dr Witherspoon continued with increasing success till the beginning of the American war,—an event which suspended his functions, and dispersed the college. He then appeared in a new character. The citizens of New Jersey elected him as one of the most suitable delegates whom they could send to that convention which formed their republican constitution; where he distinguished himself as much in the capacity of a *civilian* as he had already done in those of a *divine* and *philosopher*. In 1776, he was sent as representative of New Jersey to the Congress of the United States. He continued a member of that body seven years, and distinguished himself by his firmness, enlarged views, and profound wisdom. Nor did he forget, amid the bustle of political life, his ministerial character. After peace was restored, the college was reassembled, and continued to flourish under the immediate care of a vice-president; but Dr Witherspoon did not neglect to use every means for its improvement. Dr Witherspoon was well prepared for the part he performed in the civil and ecclesiastical assemblies of America, by the experience he had acquired before leaving Scotland, as leader of the Orthodox party in the church, chiefly upon the great question of patronage, which was then the subject of discussion. For more than two years previous to his death, he was deprived of sight; but he bore this and all his sufferings with exemplary resignation and cheerfulness. During his blindness, he was frequently in the pulpit, and spoke with his usual accuracy and power. He died on the 15th of November 1794, after a life of great activity, of true piety, and of eminent usefulness. His writings are well known. They display extensive learning, a profound knowledge of Scripture, and an intimate acquaintance with the human heart.*

This parish gave birth also to Dr Charles Nisbet, President of the College of Carlisle in America. He was born in March 1728 at Long Yester, where his father held the office of schoolmaster. After receiving license, he was ordained minister of Montrose; from which place he was induced to remove by the offer of a Presidency in America. Though a man of distinguished attainments, he seems to have enjoyed little comfort, and less worldly prosperity in "*the land of liberty*." Although the names "College" and "Pre-

* See the Life of the Rev. John Witherspoon, D. D. LL. D. prefixed to his works.

sident" sounded well, yet he found that his situation was neither more profitable nor more respectable than that which his worthy father had held before him. On one occasion, he wrote to his friends, that "America was certainly a 'land of promise;' for it was all promise and no performance."

We cannot refrain from mentioning another eminent man who was long minister of this parish—the Rev. James Innes, whose memory is still respectfully and affectionately cherished. He was ordained in the year 1760, and died in 1821; having been minister of Yester during the long period of sixty-one years. As he left no writings behind him, we cannot now form a sufficiently correct estimate of his powers. Although his talents were not of the highest order, yet he was remarkably distinguished by his powerful appeals to the conscience, his unbending integrity, and his unwearyed diligence in his Master's work.

This parish claims a remote connection with Sir Isaac Newton, who is said to have been a branch of the family of Newton of Newtonhall in this parish.*

Parochial Registers.—These consist of nine volumes, and have been kept with considerable regularity. The date of the earliest entry is 18th March 1613.

III.—POPULATION.

In the last Statistical Account of the parish, we are informed that the population was much greater about a hundred years before than at that time. The decrease is attributed "to the demolition of cottages, and the union of several small farms into one."

In 1755, the population was 1091			
1791,	.	.	933
1801,	-	-	929
1811,	-	-	1006
1821,	-	-	1100
1831,	-	-	1019 viz. 494 males, and 525 females.

The population at present (1835) is about 1050. The number of the population may perhaps have been considerably affected by the improvements in manufactures. Formerly, there were about twenty weavers in the village of Gifford; but owing to the improvements in machinery, there are at present not more than two or three; and even these have not constant employment in this branch of

* Information on this point may be obtained in Sir David Brewster's Life of Sir Isaac Newton, Appendix, No. I.

trade. Of late years, several persons have emigrated from this parish to America.

The population residing in the village of Gifford is	-	-	540
villages of Long Yester and Long Newton,	-	-	140
country,	-	-	370
The yearly average of births for the last 7 years is	-	-	30
deaths,	-	-	16
marriages,	-	-	10
The average number of persons under 15 years of age is about	-	-	400
above 70,	-	-	25
Number of nobility and families of fortune,	-	-	4*
unmarried men and widowers upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	15
women upwards of 45,	-	-	54
families,	-	-	244
chiefly engaged in agriculture,	-	-	112
trade and manufactures,	-	-	78
Average number of children in each family,	-	-	4
Number of inhabited houses,	-	-	196
uninhabited houses, (including 2 now building,)	-	-	14

Generally speaking, the people are cleanly in their habits, industrious, frugal, contented, and intelligent. Many of them are engaged in out-of-door work, of which they have usually enough to keep them well employed, as the proprietors and tenants wisely give a preference in this respect to natives of the parish, and manifest a becoming anxiety to discourage the entrance of vagrants from other parts of the country.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The parish contains 8928 acres standard imperial measure. The number of acres which have been cultivated is 5400. The number in hill pasture is 2522; of which 300 might be reclaimed—a considerable proportion having been under the plough in the reign of Queen Anne. The number of acres in a state of undivided common is 60; and there are 946 acres in plantation. The trees are of various sorts; beech, oak, ash, elm, lime, &c. They are well managed. Those on the grounds of Yester are remarkably fine trees. The following names of places in this parish shew that there were formerly large forests here:—*Woodhead, Broadwood-side, Eckyside* (the Oak-wood-side,) *Pyotshaw*,† &c.

Rent of Land.—Rent varies from 10s. to L. 2, 10s. per acre. The average rent of arable land is L. 1, 10s. per acre. Summer and winter-keep per ox or cow, L. 6, turnips or hay included; ditto

* The following are the heritors of the parish:—The Marquis of Tweeddale, Richard Hay Newton, Esq. of Newtonhall, John Hay Mackenzie, Esq. of Newhall, and Thomas Crichton, Esq. of Skedsbush. The Marquis of Tweeddale is the principal heritor and patron of the church.

† In the Anglo-Saxon, *Shaw* signifies a wood.

two-year old, L. 4, 10s. ditto ; ditto one-year old, L. 3, ditto. For a full-grown sheep in field pasture, L. 1, including turnips ; ditto on hill pasture, 6s. per annum. These of course vary considerably with the price of stock and wool.

This parish is rated in the county cess-books as follows: The estate of Yester, L. 2911, 11s. 8d.; Newtonhall, L. 1141, 2s. 4d.; Newhall, L. 468; Skedsbush, L. 111, 9s. 4d.; total L. 4632, 3s. 4d. The real rental of the parish at the time of drawing up the last Statistical Account was L. 2000 Sterling. At present it is L. 8000 per annum, having increased about L. 2000 within the last twenty years. This increase, however, is in a great measure to be attributed to the death of many of the old liferenters during that period, who held their farms at a very low rent.

Live stock.—The common breeds of sheep in this parish are the Leicester and Cheviot; and also a hardy thriving breed between a Leicester tup and a Cheviot ewe. The total number of sheep is 4000; and 900 lambs are bred annually. Great attention has been paid to their improvement, especially by the Marquis of Tweeddale. The cattle are of various sorts, from the fine short-horned English breed down to the native of the Highlands and the Shetland islands. The total number of cattle in the parish is 360; and 80 calves are bred annually.

Husbandry.—The state of husbandry has been much improved in this parish within the last ten years. At present, it is perhaps as perfect here as in any part of the country. Little wheat is grown in this parish, although it is of good quality. Barley, oats, and turnips are the principal crops. John Marquis of Tweeddale and Sir George Suttie, were the earliest and most successful in practising the turnip husbandry. This was about a hundred years ago. Bone dust has of late been very generally used instead of manure, for raising turnips, and its effects have been astonishing. Draining also has been carried on generally and successfully throughout the parish. Lately, the Marquis of Tweeddale has erected a mill for working the clay, and has invented a very ingenious machine for forming the tiles, which will greatly facilitate the operation of tile-draining. A considerable quantity of waste land has lately been reclaimed at the foot of the Lammermoors, on the farms especially of Long Yester and Long Newton; and the crops raised will soon repay the expense of cultivation. The general duration of leases in this parish is nineteen years. The state of farm-buildings and en-

closures is good. Many of the farm-houses are new, and as commodious as the mansion-houses of many Highland lairds. As far as I am aware, every encouragement is given to improvement by the proprietors.

Produce.—The gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Grain of all kinds, 8,644 bolls of six imperial bushels,	L. 8,457	18	0
Potatoes, . 1,800 bolls at 6s. per boll of 40 stones,	540	0	0
Turnips, . 10,000 tons at 4s. per ton,	2,000	0	0
Clover-hay, 40,000 stones at 7d. per stone,	1,166	18	4
Meadow-hay, 3,000 stones at 4d.	50	0	0
Pasture for . 360 cows at L. 5,	1,800	0	0
Pasture for . 3,000 sheep at 6s. for 1000 at 18s.	1,800	0	0
Young cattle, horses, and lambs bred, wool, &c. say	3,000	0	0
Total amount of raw produce,	L. 18,814	11	4

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—There are no weekly markets held in the parish ; but there are three trysts or fairs held annually, which will be afterwards mentioned. The distance from Gifford to Haddington, where a market is held every Friday, is four miles. This town, it is well known, affords to the surrounding country a good market for all kinds of agricultural produce. The Haddington corn-market is the greatest in Scotland, owing probably in some measure to its being entirely a ready money market.

Means of Communication.—The road to Haddington, though not very level, is kept, as all the other roads are, in good repair. It might, however, be much improved at little expense by cutting and raising. In this parish there are about three miles of turnpike roads and thirteen of parish roads. The road from Gifford to Edinburgh, which is distant about nineteen miles, is in a good state of repair. Since the year 1750, when an act of Parliament empowered commissioners to repair the post-road from Douglas Bridge to Ravenshaugh Bridge, the cross roads of this parish and county have been greatly improved. Before that time the roads were nearly impassable. At present, a one-horse coach travels three times a-week between Edinburgh and Gifford ; leaving Gifford on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays at 7 A. M., and returning on the other days. It passes through Saltoun and Tranent. It leaves No. 2, Princes Street, Edinburgh, at a quarter to four afternoon, and performs the journey in about two hours and a-half. There is a penny post-office in the village of Gifford. Till

of late, the post-man travelled between Gifford and Haddington (which is the post-town) twice a-day;—bringing letters from the north mail in the morning, and from the south mail in the afternoon. But, this summer, he has travelled only once a-day; the reason of which probably is, that this is an “age of economy and retrenchment.” Possibly, however, if the sixpence a-day which was lately taken off his small wages were restored, he might be able once more to afford the Gifford people the benefit of a double journey *per diem*. There are two carriers, each of whom travels between Gifford and Edinburgh every week; leaving Gifford on Tuesdays and Fridays, and Edinburgh on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The bridges and fences throughout this parish are kept generally in the best condition.

Villages.—There are three villages in the parish, viz. Gifford, Long Yester, and Long Newton. The last two, which are situated at the foot of the Lammermoors, are inconsiderable. The village of Gifford is generally admired for the beauty of its situation, and the regularity of its buildings. It is situated on the east bank of Gifford-water. Nearly all the houses in the two principal streets are of two stories, and possess an air of great comfort. One of these streets runs along part of the avenue leading to Yester House: and at the northern extremity stands the school and dwelling-house, surmounted by a small spire. The church is situated at the extremity of the other street. About a third part of the houses in Gifford is the Marquis of Tweeddale’s property,—the rest are held of him in feu or fief. The amount of feu-duty paid annually to the Marquis by the feuars (of whom there are about forty) is L. 13, 17s. 11d. It may be interesting to mention the tenure by which these feus are held. The conditions are, that each feuar should “attend the Marquis of Tweeddale the space of two days yearly, sufficiently *mounted with horse and arms*, upon his own proper charges and expenses, when he shall be desired to do the *samen*:”—also that he should “attend other two days at the Marquis’ expense;”—should “ride at two fairs yearly in Gifford,” and “perform a *darg* or day’s work yearly for winning of hay in the parks of Yester.” The feuars were exempted by the Marquis “from all cess, taxations, ministers’ stipends, and other public burthens.” They obtained from the superior, long ago, a grant of a piece of land near Gifford, called the Common, consisting of 60 acres, and worth at least L. 100 per annum; 14 acres are at pre-

sent in cultivation, and yield a rent of L. 46. This sum has of late been judiciously applied to the purpose of making local improvements,—especially to form a pavement along the streets of the village, which will be a great benefit to the place. The rest of the Common is in pasture. Each feuar who pays 10s. a year of feu-duty has a right to a cow's grass, and all the feuars are allowed to “cast *faill* and *divot* on the common, for upholding and repairing their houses, in quantities proportionable to their respective feu-duties.” The feuars meet every two years to choose two bailies and a committee of five, by whom the affairs of the village are managed. In ancient times, the Marquis of Tweeddale's factor, (who held the office of baron bailie) and the two bailies chosen by the feuars, met three times a-year at the Cross to settle disputes and try delinquents. The existence of this court (which was called the *Birla* or *Boorlaw* Court, and which was discontinued only within the last forty years,) accounts for the following characteristic passage in the former Statistical Account: “There is not one lawyer or attorney in the whole parish; and the people make it their study to keep their affairs as much out of the hands of such men as possible.” The Boorlaw Court had a constable to enforce their orders, and this functionary still remains in office. The punishment usually inflicted by the court for misdemeanours was a night's confinement in the Black Hole or the *Jougs* at the Tron.*

Ecclesiastical State.—It has been mentioned that the parish church is situated in the village of Gifford, on the north side of the parish. This situation, though distant from some families, is perhaps the most convenient that could have been chosen. About one-half of the parishioners (those in Gifford) are thus in the immediate neighbourhood of the church; and of the other half the great majority are within two miles, although a few families are three miles distant. The church was built in the year 1708. It was re-seated and thoroughly repaired about five years ago, which has rendered it very comfortable. It affords sufficient accommodation for the parishioners, having been seated for 560; although it may accommodate without inconvenience about 600. The sittings (as they ought to be in an Established Church) are all free.

* The jougs (*jugum*, a yoke?) were pieces of wood fastened round the neck of the culprit, and attached to an upright post, which still stands in the centre of the village, and is used for weighing goods at the fairs. Here the culprit stood in a sort of pillory, exposed to the taunts and missiles of the villagers.

They are allocated by the sheriff to the various heritors according to their valued rents, by whom they are allotted to their tenants and dependents; whilst the session of course possess the right of allotting the communion table seats.

The present manse was built in 1824. It is commodious and well finished; and is one of the best in the country. The glebe contains about 10 acres; and is let for L. 25 a year. The stipend amounts on an average to about L. 200, besides the allowance for communion elements.

There are no Dissenting or Seceding chapels in the parish. The great body of the people have long been firmly attached to the Established Church; and their love has not waxed cold. There are about six Seceders and two or three Episcopalians in the parish; but many of the former, being advanced in years, and therefore unable to travel to Haddington, generally attend the parish church. The younger branches of their families, having been trained under the faithful ministrations of former ministers, have in most cases joined the church. The Episcopalians attend the Established Church regularly. The average attendance is nearly 600, which is more than half of the population; but this is explained by the fact, that several families in neighbouring parishes are nearer, by several miles, the church of Yester than their own parish churches. The number of communicants at the summer sacrament is on an average about 430; at the winter sacrament, 400. The number of male heads of families in communion with the church is 135.

An Auxiliary Bible Society existed and flourished in the parish for many years. It consisted exclusively of members of the church, although Dissenters were not prohibited from giving their contributions. The Society sent about L. 25 annually to the East Lothian Bible Society; but this was discontinued, and the money directed to other religious purposes, four years ago;—about the time when our Seceding brethren made the discovery that the Church of Scotland is the “Mother of abominations,” and raised the war-cry of extermination against the “paid servants of the devil.”!! This questionable discovery has certainly had no good influence on the operations of religious societies. A collection, amounting to L. 62, was made last spring, for the church extension fund. On the first Sabbath of the year, a collection is made to supply the poor with coals. On an average it amounts to L. 7; and the

tenantry and others kindly undertake to drive the coals, free of expense.

In former times, the parish of Yester was not so extensive as it now is. It was increased in 1702, by the annexation of part of the parishes of Barra and Bolton; the other part of the parish of Barra was annexed to Garvald. The old church of St Bathans stands near Yester House, about a mile from the present church. It is now used as a burying-place for the family of Yester and their connections. It is a small but very handsome building, of red sandstone, and has evidently been renewed at different periods. The nave bears the date of 1635; but the transept is more ancient, probably by 200 years. The pulpit, which is made of beautifully carved oak, and said to be 400 years old, was removed from the former to the present church, where it still is.

From the ancient *Taxatio*, it appears that the church of St Bothans was not of great value: being rated only at thirty merks. In 1421, Sir William Hay of Yester, converted this church into a collegiate form—consisting of a provost, six prebendaries, and two singing boys, who enjoyed the lands, tithes, and other ecclesiastical revenues of the parish, down to the period of the Reformation. Alicia Hay, daughter of Sir Thomas Hay of Errol, and second wife of Sir William Hay of Yester, granted for the support of a chaplain in the collegiate church of Bothans, the lands of Blanes within the constabulary of Haddington,—also various rents of houses in the town of Haddington, amounting to L. 4, 2s. 6d. Sir David Hay, son of Sir William, gave also some additional lands for the support of the chaplain; and in 1539, Robert Watherstone (provost of Bothans) gave for the same purpose, two houses in Haddington, the rents of which amounted to L. 3, 10s. 8d.; also two acres of land on the north side of the town. In Bagimont's Roll, the church of St Bothans is rated at L. 40.* After the Reformation, the revenue was given in at L. 100 Scots. It has been doubted whether the collegiate church of Bothans and Yester be the same; but their identity appears certain.† At Duncanlaw, on the east side of Yester parish, there was formerly

* In the Roll of St Andrew's, 1547, the *Præpositura de Bothans* is mentioned as being situated in the deanery of Dunbar. Reliq. Divi Andreae. Dempster informs us that the 18th of January was the festival of Bothan.

† The village near the old church was sometimes called *Bothans*. In 1320, Sir John Gifford of Yester granted to the monks of Dryburgh an annual rent from his village of Bothan.

a chapel dedicated to St Nicholas; but no vestiges of it now remain.*

Education.—The means of instruction in this parish are furnished in sufficient abundance. There are five schools; three of which are parochial and endowed. Of these, one is in the village of Gifford; another in that of Long Yester, and the third in that of Long Newton. The two unendowed schools are in the village of Gifford: one of these is under the care of a female, who teaches sewing. In the schools at Long Yester and Long Newton, as

* Robert III. gave to the chapel of St Nicholas at Duncanlaw, some lands which had belonged to John Straton. Roberts. Index, 145.

I have not been able to discover the names of the ministers who had the spiritual oversight of this parish from the Reformation till the year 1653. On the subject of their deeds and virtues, history is silent. A short account of those ministers whose names are known may not be uninteresting, as it tends to throw some light on the state of the church at different periods. In October 1653, Laurence Charteris was chosen minister of Bothans *by the session*. He seems to have been a man of some eminence in his day. It appears from the Presbytery Records, that he was Moderator of the Presbytery of Haddington from 1671 till 1676; a circumstance which shews, not only that he was held in respect by his brethren, but also that the presbytery were beginning at that time to adopt Episcopalian views and practices. Accordingly, Mr Charteris was appointed by the *Bishop of Edinburgh*, in January 1676, to be Professor of Theology in the University, in which situation, however, he does not seem to have continued many years. After the Revolution, he was removed to be minister of Dirleton, where he died. In August 1681, *George Stephen* was ordained minister of Yester, in consequence of an edict from the Bishop of Edinburgh. He appears, however, to have been a staunch Presbyterian. The following reason, highly honourable to his principles and character, is assigned for his removal, in the session records:—"January 7, 1682. No sermon, Mr George Stephen, our minister having left his charge, *because he would not take the test* imposed by authority, as he was required on Thursday last past." In December 1682, Robert Meldrum, minister of Garvald, was appointed by the *Bishop of Edinburgh* to be minister of Yester. In this situation he remained till December 1699, notwithstanding the political and ecclesiastical changes which during his incumbency had taken place in the nation. The change from Prelacy to Presbytery at the Revolution does not seem to have changed his determination to continue minister of Yester; and though this circumstance might make some regard him as a second "*Vicar of Bray*," yet he appears to have been a faithful minister. The following entry in reference to him is made in the session records:—"December 17, 1699. No sermon, our minister being dead, having faithfullie in the office of the ministry, served at this church exactly seventeen years, from the serving of his edict here to the next day after his burial." On the 9th of January 1700, the heritors and householders met at the church "for the *election of new elders*;"—and the *heritors, elders, and householders* were ordered by the Presbytery to be present on the 31st, "for signing a call to a minister to this parish." The call was given to a Mr Alexander Anderson: but he does not appear to have been ordained, having probably accepted a call to another parish. In January 1701, another call was signed to *Mr James Craig*, who was ordained in April, and remained till October 1718; when he was translated to Dunbar. In November 1719, "the heritors, elders, and others concerned met to elect one to be their minister, and unanimously made choice of *Mr James Witherspoon*." He was ordained in March 1720, and fulfilled his office with exemplary fidelity. He died in August 1759. *Mr James Innes* was ordained minister of this parish in March 1760, and died in February 1821. He was succeeded in December the same year by Daniel Wilkie, now in the New Grayfriars' Edinburgh. Robert Smith (now at Old Machar's Aberdeen) was inducted minister of this parish in October 1829. David Horne (now at Corstorphine) was ordained in May 1831; John Thomson in April 1834.

well as in the unendowed schools, the common branches of reading, writing, arithmetic, and English grammar are taught. In addition to these, Latin, Greek, French, geography, and mathematics are taught in the parish school at Gifford. Two or three boarders usually reside in the Gifford schoolmaster's house; and he is well qualified to instruct them in the various branches of classical education. The fees of one of the unendowed schools may amount to L. 24 per annum, and of the other to about L. 14.

The following is a statement of the income of the parochial schoolmasters: at Gifford, salary, L. 34, 4s. 4d., school-fees, L. 40, other emoluments, L. 1. 7s. 10d.,* total income, L. 75, 12s. 2d.; —Long Yester, salary, L. 8, 11s. 1d., school-fees, L. 18, total income, L. 26, 11s. 1d.;†—and Long Newton, salary, L. 8, 11s. 1d., school-fees, L. 14, total income, L. 22, 11s. 1d. The schools and dwelling-houses are in good repair, and the teachers have the legal accommodations. The general expense of education is as follows: For teaching to read, 3s. per quarter; to read and write, 3s. 6d., and in the parish school, 4s.; for reading, writing, and arithmetic, 4s. 6d., and in the parish school, 5s.; for teaching these branches, together with geography or grammar, 6s.; and for teaching the classics, 7s. 6d.

The schools are conveniently situated for the accommodation of the children. None are so distant from school as to be deprived of the means of instruction. The schools are in general well attended. The average attendance of children in this parish at all the schools is about 220, which is more than one-fifth of the population. All the children in the parish above six years of age are able to read, and most of them can write. It is to be regretted, however, that in many cases the children are taken from school too soon, in order to assist their parents in their work. Yet the people in general seem to be alive to the benefits of education; and it would be reckoned a great reproach to any parent if he neglected to send his children to school at the proper age. About twenty years ago, the sum of L. 100 was mortified by William

* The sum of L. 1, 7s. 10d., given to the parochial schoolmaster in Gifford, arises from mortified money on some estates in the parish, and part of it from an estate not in the parish.

† It ought to be mentioned that, in addition to the sum of L. 8, 11s. 1d., which the schoolmaster of Long Yester receives from this parish, he obtains also from the parish of Garvald the sum of L. 17, 2s. 2d., so that his emoluments amount to L. 43, 13s. 3d.

Begbie, Esq. of Gifford Vale, to educate poor children. The interest, amounting to L. 4, 10s., is appropriated to this purpose by the kirk-session. The session also, when necessary, pay for the education of poor children; and several members of the family of Yester bear the expense of educating between ten and twenty children. There are two Sabbath schools in the parish.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There are at present eighteen regular paupers, each of whom receives on an average L. 3 per annum. Besides these, about eight or ten receive occasional assistance. The whole yearly expenditure of the kirk-session is about L. 120. In 1722, the average of the Sabbath collections was L. 2 Scots money each day. In 1751, it amounted to 4s. Sterling; in 1792, to 8s.; at present the average collection on Sabbath is L. 1, 3s.; and the annual amount is about L. 60. In 1710, the session received from the Laird of Newtonhall the sum of L. 1519, 3s. Scots, which was expended in purchasing from the Marquis of Tweeddale thirteen acres of land, subject to a feu-duty of 1s. per acre. The rent of this tract, which is called the “*precious land*,” amounts at present to L. 29; which sum is also appropriated to the maintenance of the poor. In 1798, the Rev. Mr Innes, and his brother, Dr Robert Innes, mortified to the kirk-session the sum of L. 200, the interest of which is applied to assist the poor in paying their house rents. This sum is placed in the hands of Lord Tweeddale, who still allows L. 10 of interest. It has been mentioned, that on the first Sabbath of the year, a collection is made to supply the poor with coals, amounting usually to L. 7. All these sums, together with what is derived from the use of the mortcloths, &c. may amount to about L. 110, which is nearly adequate to the supply of the poor, and happily renders assessments unnecessary. About twenty years ago, during a period of great scarcity, an assessment was made to supply the labouring poor. Although necessary at the time, it had by no means a good effect on that feeling of honest pride which is characteristic of Scotchmen. At present, however, there is no undue anxiety to obtain parochial relief. Many would rather submit to the severest hardships than live on the parish. The poor are all supported in their own houses, and are supplied with medicines from a dispensary *gratis*. Many of the poor are supplied with soup three times a-week from the Marquis of Tweeddale’s kitchen, and with wood for fuel in winter from the grounds of Yester.

Fairs.—There are three fairs or trysts held annually in the village of Gifford; viz. on the last Tuesday of March, the third Tuesday of June, and the first Tuesday of October. At these fairs, about 500 cattle, as many horses, and between 3000 and 4000 sheep are usually offered for sale. Many purchasers come from a considerable distance; and generally a good deal of business is done. At the last-mentioned fair, the Agricultural Society of East Lothian meet at Gifford to award premiums for the best *pens* of sheep of different kinds. About twenty years ago, leave was obtained to hold a tryst on the Monday mornings during harvest for hiring shearers. This has of late been a great nuisance to the parish; as the shearers, to the number often of 500, flock to Gifford *on Sabbath*; and not only wait to be hired, but profane the Lord's day by drunken and disorderly conduct. A bill, like that of Sir Andrew Agnew, would be no small blessing.

Inns, Alehouses, &c.—Of these there are seven in the parish.

Fuel.—All our coal is brought from the parishes of Salton and Pencaitland,—a distance of six miles. The price of a cart-load is 7s. 6d., viz. 4s. for 12 cwt. of coal, and 3s. 6d. for carriage.

October 1835.

PARISH OF GLADSMUIR.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN RAMSAY, A. M. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, &c.—THE parish of Gladsmuir was erected, in 1692, by annexations from the contiguous parishes of Haddington, Tranent, and Aberlady, and took its name from the place where the church is situate. That place was called Gladsmuir, long before the parish was formed. In 1650, those portions of the parish of Gladsmuir which were taken from Haddington and Aberlady, were set apart with the view of forming a new parish. A chapel was built, where divine service was performed; and the place where it stood still goes by the name of the Old Kirk. A manse was also built, a little to the east of Penston,—which still bears the name of the Old Manse. But it was not till 1692, that the portion of the parish which was taken from Tranent was added to the other two portions formerly designed, and the whole erected into a separate parish. At that time, Gladsmuir was a rugged uncultivated tract of land, lying on both sides of the great London road, and probably was so named from its being frequented by kites or gleds, as they were commonly called.

Extent—Boundaries.—The parish extends from the Frith of Forth on the north, to the Tyne on the south, a distance of fully 5 miles; and from Merryhatton on the east to Whinbush on the west, a distance of 4 miles. It is bounded on the east, by the parish of Haddington; on the west, by the parishes of Tranent and Pencaitland; on the south, by the Tyne and Pencaitland; and on the north, by the Frith of Forth and the parish of Aberlady. On the east, it is intersected by a neck of land belonging to Haddington, separating the barony of Samuelston from the barony of Trabroun, and running west nearly as far as Gladsmuir. Otherwise, it is very compact, but of an irregular figure. It contains about 10 square miles.

Topographical Appearances.—From the Frith on the one side, and the Tyne on the other, the land rises gently to a ridge, along which the great London road passes; and on the highest point of that ridge, the church is situate.

The prevailing winds in this parish are west, north and south-west. Our heavy rains are from the west. The rains from the west, when not very abundant, being carried along the Pentlands, are often afterwards attracted by the Lammermuirs on the one hand, and the sea on the other; and thus the district between Musselburgh and Dunbar receives perhaps less rain than any other district of Scotland. There is sometimes a good deal of rain at Edinburgh and westward, when there is none in that tract. The climate is naturally good, and it has been much improved by the high state of cultivation to which the county has been brought.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth bounds the parish, on the north, only to the extent of about a mile, the rest of the parish to the north being cut off from the sea by intersections of the parishes of Aberlady and Tranent. The shore is rocky, containing detached masses of rock interspersed by the terminations of strata appearing above the bed of the sea at low water. The Tyne, which forms the southern boundary of the parish to the extent of about a mile and a-half, is here but a small stream, the water of which is frequently carried off to supply the mills in its course. There is abundance of excellent spring water, at the northern and southern extremities of the parish; but in the middle tract, where the land is high, and coal has been wrought, it is not so plentiful, and some of the wells are very deep. In the midst of the coal-field, however, a little to the north of the village of Penston, in a line from east to west, three springs rise to the surface in great abundance, probably occasioned by a dike running through the coal-field in that direction. At Chesterhall, on the property of St Germans, about half a century ago, there was a considerable marsh, covering sixteen or seventeen acres; but, by ditching and draining, it is now completely dried, and converted into excellent land. There is not now a marsh in the parish,—though, a century ago, there appears to have been several. There are no streams or runs of water, except such as are produced and fed by drains from the adjacent fields.

Geology and Mineralogy.—This parish abounds with coal, particularly the barony of Penston. In the neighbourhood of that village, it was wrought so far back as the fourteenth century,

and has long furnished the chief supply to the eastern parts of the county. It was wrought when Oliver Cromwell was in this country, about the middle of the seventeenth century, and drew then a rent of L. 400. In 1834, it was found that the field lying to the south of the village of Penston had been very much wrought out; and a new tenant having succeeded to the lease of the farm, and also of the coal, a new pit was opened a little to the north of the Henmuir, and the coal has been wrought there ever since. But as most of the coal has been already wrought in that part of the property, borings were made in different places to the north of the village of Penston, and a pit was sunk in that quarter about a gunshot to the south of the great road. The operations there were, for some time, very much retarded by an influx of water; but a steam-engine was erected, and the water having been carried off, the work is now going on briskly, and a great quantity of coal is brought out and disposed of. The coal is of an excellent quality. The seam is about thirty-two inches thick, while the Pawnwood coal is from four to five feet thick. There are now two engines at work, and that part of the field is yet unbroken. At the same time, the work at the Henmuir is still going on. The coal-grieve at Penston has been so good as furnish me with an account of the different stratifications that were met with in the boring for coal, in August 1834.

	<i>Fath.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>In.</i>		<i>Fath.</i>	<i>Feet.</i>	<i>In.</i>
Length of box,	- 0	4	9	Blaes, dark-blue,	- 0	4	3
Fakes gray,	- 0	1	0	Blaes, black,	- 0	1	10
Blue dark, blue soft	- 0	7	10	Freestone, dark-gray	0	12	6
Coal, rough,	- 0	1	2	Freestone, darker,	- 0	0	10
Blaes, dark blue,	- 0	2	2	Do. hard,	- 0	0	10
Bands, dark-gray,	- 0	1	4	Do. dark-gray,	- 0	1	1
Blaes, black, mixed with coal,	1	0		Blaes, soft black,	- 0	0	4
Bands, dark-gray,	- 0	1	7	Coal,	- 0	0	9
Blaes, dark-blue,	- 0	0	7	Blaes, blackish,	- 0	1	11
Bands, dark-gray,	- 0	0	4	Freestone bands, gray,	0	1	1
Coal,	- 0	0	5	Do. dark-gray,	- 0	5	10
Blaes, dark-blue, intermixed				Blue bed,	- 0	0	2
with gray bands,	0	6	6	Freestone band,	- 0	0	6
Blaes, black, soft,	- 0	1	2	Coal, soft,	- 0	0	6
Freestone, gray	- 0	4	1	Blaes, blackish,	- 0	1	5
Blaes, dark-blue,	- 0	1	9	Coal, soft,	- 0	0	5
Coal,	- 0	0	9	Blaes, black, mixed with			
Blae,	- 0	0	3	freestone bands,	- 0	1	7
Coal,	- 0	2	4	Freestone, dark-gray,	- 0	5	1
Blaes, dark-gray,	- 0	0	6	Bands and blaes, freestone,	0	1	9
Freestone, dark-gray and hard,	2	3		Coal, splint,	- 0	2	8
Freestone bands,	- 0	0	10	Pavement,	- 0	0	2
Blaes, black,	- 0	0	4				
Coal,	- 0	1	8				
Blaes, black,	- 0	0	10				
				Fathoms,	16	4	2

Another pit has just been opened, a little below the North Mains,

upon the side of the road leading from Penston to the London road ; but it is not yet finished. We find that in 1812, coal was wrought upon the property of Hodges. There was also a brick-work upon that property, about fifty years ago ; but the working, both of the coal and the brick, has been discontinued. A proposal was made lately to set a-going a brick-work there for brick and tile ; but it was given up. Coal was wrought about thirty years ago at M'Merry, and also at the western extremity of the parish ; but the pit was removed a little to the west in the parish of Tranent, where it now is. It belongs to Anderson of St Germain's.

In 1835, at M'Merry, when the blacksmith was sinking a well a little behind his house, on the St Germain's property, he accidentally came upon some parrot coal. The tenant of the coal-work upon that property, upon hearing of this, examined it, and found a seam of parrot coal, which he has been working ever since, and which, having supplied the new gas-work at Haddington, promises to turn to good account. The tenant of the Penston coal also attempted to find it on the opposite side of the road, but did not succeed. The same year, borings were made in different parts of the Elvingston property, with a view to find coal, but without success. The magistrates of Haddington, some time ago, set on foot a colliery on their property betwixt Gladsmuir and Samuelston ; but after going on for some time, they were obliged to give up the work, having lost about L. 2000 in the experiment.

From all which, it appears that the coal strata crop out on the east, about the kirk of Gladsmuir.

Lime has been found in different parts of the parish. At present, there is only one kiln in operation, at Hairlaw, a little to the east of Longniddry, on the property of the Earl of Wemyss. About a mile to the south, on the property of Ainslie of Redcoll, there is a kiln in pretty good preservation, where limestone had been burnt, but the working has been discontinued for some time. I do not know that lime has been wrought, on the south side of the great road ; but as there is a kiln in active operation on the eastern extremity of the Pencaitland estate, and upon the borders of the barony of Samuelston, it is highly probable that lime may be found on the contiguous lands of Samuelston or of Hodges. It is found, in the same line, all the way west to the kirk of Crichton, and on the north of the road so far east as the farm of Hoprig.

Iron ore has been found on the eastern extremity of the farm of Setonhill, a little below Cotyburn, in the hollow called the *Dean*.

It was wrought for some time, but afterwards the working was given up, for what cause I have not been able to learn. But now that there is so great a demand for iron, it is in contemplation again to begin the work. The property belongs to the Earl of Wemyss, who, in all probability, will not lose sight of a mineral of so much importance at the present time.

Freestone rock for building is found, every where in the parish. An old quarry on the road from Gladsmuir to Penston, from which stones were procured for building the church and school-house, is still open, but filled with water to a considerable depth. A quarry was also opened last year at Westbank, for supplying stones for the buildings upon the estate. Quarries of a similar kind are to be met with in different parts of the parish.

There is a remarkable dike of whinstone running through the parish, from east to west. It passes betwixt the house of Redcoll and Longniddry, and being quarried in different places, has furnished an abundant supply of excellent stones for making and repairing the roads. It has been traced through East Lothian all the way to Borrowstownness.

In the fields about Greendykes, Southfield, and Adniston, great quantities of boulders and detached pieces of rock have been found and removed. They were struck by the plough, and the cultivation of the fields could not be effected till they were raised and carried off.

The soil in the middle tract, upon the western extremity, and all upon the south of the great road, is clayey, with the exception of a small tract upon the banks of the Tyne, which is loamy; near the Frith, on the north, it is sandy, and as you advance southward towards Longniddry, it becomes a rich loam. There is a field lying to the south-west of Chesterhall, which is mossy. That field, forty years ago, was a bog, out of which the old people remember peats being dug. All vestiges of what it once was are now done away, and it is in a state of high cultivation.

Plantations.—Belts of wood are to be found in different parts of the parish, composed of oak, beech, lime, birch, elm, ash, chestnut, hazel, and some others. The plantations of Penston, Hodges, and Samuelston, being contiguous to each other, form a tract of wood betwixt 100 and 200 acres, lying on the south of the great road, and are composed of the different kinds of fir, but chiefly the Scotch. The Penston wood, consisting of 30 acres, was planted about forty years ago by Lady Ross Baillie. The wood at Hodges

is old, and in some places has been so much thinned, that it might be cleared and made arable at very little expense. Nowhere in the county are ditches and drains more necessary than on the property of Hodges.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.†

Ancient families—Baillie of Hoprig and Penston.—By far the most ancient family connected with this parish, is that of Baillie of Hoprig and Penston. That, indeed, is one of the most ancient families in Scotland, having been in possession of those lands for the long period of 540 years. John Baliol, Lord of Barnard Castle, was the founder of Baliol College, Oxford, and father of John Baliol, King of Scotland. He had a brother, Alexander Baliol or de Balliolo, High Chamberlain of Scotland, whose second son, William de Balliolo, swore fealty to King Edward I. in 1296, as appears from the Ragman Roll. He was proprietor of Hoprig and Penston, and acquired Lamington, in Lanarkshire, by marriage with a daughter, it is said, of William Wallace, Governor of Scotland. The family took the designation of Lamington, altering their name to Baillie.

Sir William Baillie of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, dying without legitimate male issue about 1580, was succeeded by his eldest daughter Margaret, who married Edward Maxwell of the Nithsdale family. He took the name of Baillie, and from them descended William Baillie of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, whose only son, William, dying unmarried, his estates devolved on his daughter, Margaret, married to Sir James Carmichael of Bonnytoun, in Lanarkshire, of the Hyndford family. Their son, Sir James, died without issue, and was succeeded by his sister, Henrietta Baillie of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, also Bonnytoun, and married the gallant Admiral Sir John Lockhart Ross of Balnagowan,

* It may be noticed here, that a very large green tree stood at the west end of the manse, planted by Principal Robertson, when minister of the parish. Towards the bottom, it was about 3 feet in diameter, of a great height, and spread its branches over some of the buildings in its neighbourhood. The trunk, when the present incumbent came to the parish in 1833, was quite hollow and rotten in the middle, and the whole weight was supported by an outer rim of 2 or 3 inches thick, with an opening on one side. Had it been overturned by the wind, it might have done very great injury both to the manse and offices. To prevent which, it was cut down last year, and the fragments of it, laid up beside the house, bear witness of what it once was.

† There are no accounts of the parish, as far as I know, either written or printed. Some years ago, Mr M'Donald, of the Register-Office, found an account in MSS. of several of the parishes of East Lothian drawn up in 1627, which he has lately got printed, and has generously sent a copy of the book to the library of the General Assembly, to be preserved for the use of the church. The parish of Gladsmuir having been erected long after that period, of course cannot be amongst them. But the portion taken from Tranent is to be found under the head of that parish.

Bart. Her eldest son, Sir Charles Ross of Balnagowan, predeceased her, leaving by his first wife, Maria Teresa, daughter of James Lockhart of Lee and Carnwath, Count of the Holy Roman Empire, a daughter, Matilda, and by his second wife, Lady Mary Fitzgerald, daughter of William Robert, second Duke of Leinster, a son, Sir Charles Ross of Balnagowan, and five daughters. Matilda, the only child of the first marriage, succeeded to Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, married Sir Thomas John Cochran, Captain R. N. and died 1819. The eldest son, Alexander Dundas Ross Cochran Wishart Baillie, who is yet a minor, is the present proprietor of Lamington, Hoprig, and Penston, and is lineally descended from William de Balliolo in 1296.

To this family, the parish of Gladsmuir in a great measure owes its existence; for William Baillie of Lamington was most active in procuring its disjunction from the neighbouring parishes, and its erection and endowment as a separate parish.

Douglas of Longniddry.—Another ancient family connected with this parish was Douglas of Longniddry. This family was a cadet of the Douglasses of Dalkeith, Earls of Morton, and was distinguished for steady attachment to the doctrines of the Reformation, which, about the middle of the sixteenth century, were spreading rapidly through this country.*

In the Duke of Somerset's expedition to Scotland in 1547, it is mentioned "7th September, marched that day nine miles, and camped at night by a toun standing upon the Frith called Longniddrie. There was found a gentlewoman, the wife of one Hugh Douglas. She was great with child, whose estate the council understanding, my Lord's Grace, and my Lord Lieutenant took order, that all night, without danger or damage, she was well preserved." The Douglasses had the east part of Longniddry, where the vaulted ground floor of the castle still remains. At that time, the estate belonging to the Douglasses comprehended a considerable part of Hairlaw, Redcoll, and Setonhill, which have since been tak-

* When John Knox was obliged to leave St Andrews, on account of the troubles to which the Protestants were then subjected, he was invited to Longniddry by Mr Douglas. There he was employed in conducting the education of Mr Douglas' two sons, Francis and George, and also Alexander Cockburn, the eldest son of the laird of Ormiston. This Alexander Cockburn was a young man of great promise, but died at the early age of twenty-eight. A brazen tablet was erected to his memory in the aisle of the old church at Ormiston, which is still in existence. While residing at Longniddry, Knox was in the practice of expounding the Scriptures, and preaching the doctrines of the Reformation in a chapel, about half a-mile to the west of which he then lived, close by the present mansion-house of Longniddry, which, from his preaching in it, still goes by the name of Knox's Kirk.

en away from the estate of Longniddry, and fallen into the possession of different proprietors. The history of the House of Seton mentions that George Earl of Winton, who died 1650, “ did conquest two considerable feu lands in Longniddrie, hereditarily; the one from Sir George Douglas in the east, and the other from the laird of Corstorphine (Forrester of Costorphine.”) As also “ he bought hereditarily the teynds of Longniddrie from the then Bothwell, Lord Holyroodhouse.” The estates of the Earl of Winton were forfeited in the rebellion 1715, and sold to the York Buildings Company;—from whom Longniddry was purchased in 1779 by John Glassel, Esq. who was a native of Dumfries, and settled sometime as a merchant in Virginia. At his death, his only child, Joan, succeeded to the property, and married Lord John Douglas Henry Campbell, brother, and presumptive heir of William Duke of Argyle. Her eldest son, John Henry Glassel Campbell, is the present proprietor of Longniddry. The farm of Southfield, which formed a part of Longniddry, was sold by Mr Glassel, and is now the property of Lord Wemyss.

Lands of Hodges.—The lands of Hodges in this parish, lying betwixt the baronies of Penston and Samuelston, took their name from Robert Hodge, a man of some eminence in his day as a lawyer. That property originally belonged to the town of Haddington, and formed a part of the extensive common attached to the burgh. The town having engaged in a law-suit, employed Mr Hodge, who resided in the neighbourhood, to conduct it. After being carried to the House of Lords, it was decided in favour of Haddington; and the magistrates gave Mr Hodge those lands as a compensation for his services in bringing the process to a successful issue.

In 1650, a decret was obtained from the Commission for the Plantation of Kirks, to disjoin the lands of Samuelston, Penston, Elvingston, and others, from the parishes of Haddington and Aberlady, to erect them into a separate parish, and to build a kirk at a place called Thrieplaw, on the west side of the Cittle knowe, being the east part of Mr Hodge's property. That erection did not take place; but a church was built which served as a place of worship for the western parts of the parish of Haddington. Mr Hodge took an active part, and had the principal charge in the building of this church. He was a man of exemplary conduct, was referred to in almost all cases of dispute, and was most active in maintaining the observances of religion, and peace and good or-

der in the neighbourhood. At his death, he was buried within the walls of the church, and was regarded as the founder of that establishment.

When a minister was appointed, a manse was built for him at the east end of the village of Penston, which manse is still standing, and is at present occupied by a corn-dealer in the parish. It continued to be the dwelling of the minister till the present manse was built, and still goes by the name of the old manse. Principal Robertson is said to have composed in it the greater part of the History of Scotland. The kirk at Thrieplaw continued as a place of worship till the erection of the present church in 1695, when it was allowed to go into decay. And, when a colliery was afterwards set agoing close by, the walls of it were made to form a part of some colliers' houses. Not a vestige of it is now to be seen, the working of coals in that place has long been discontinued, and four poor solitary cot-houses, situated in the most dreary and inaccessible spot that could be found in the whole parish, still retain the name, and keep up the remembrance of the *Old Kirk*. And yet, before the addition to the parish of what was taken from Tranent, it was perhaps the most central situation that could be found. It is now surrounded and shut up with large woods on all sides; but while it continued to be a place of worship, not a tree was to be seen about the place, and the boundaries of the different properties were marked by little hillocks raised for the purpose.

Land-owners.—There are 10 heritors or proprietors of land in the parish. The Earl of Hopetoun, vice-patron, along with the Crown, possesses the lands of Coates, and is but a small proprietor. The Earl of Wemyss has the highest valuation, and possesses the lands of Hairlaw, Redhouse, Setonhill, and Southfield. Baillie of Lamington possesses Penston, Westbank, Gladsmuir, Hoprig, Hoprigmains, and Wheatrig;* he is yet a minor. The Earl of Had-dington possesses the lands of Samuelston, at present occupied by four tenants. Anderson of St Germain's possesses Chesterhall,

* *Farm of Wheatrig.*—The farm of Wheatrig, which belongs to Baillie of Lamington, consisting of sixty eight Scotch acres, is detached from the rest of the property, and was acquired in a peculiar manner. According to tradition, the Earl of Winton was invited to dine with Baillie of Lamington. Baillie took care that there should be no wheat bread at table, and when asked the reason, said, that none of his lands were fit for raising wheat. The Earl, with great good humour, made him a present of a ploughgate of land capable of raising wheat, telling him he had done so, that he might never afterwards be able to say that he could not treat his guests with wheaten bread, because he had no lands fit for growing wheat. From that circumstance the farm got the name of Wheatrig. It was taken from the property of Redhouse, now in the possession of the Earl of Wemyss.

Greendykes, East and West Adniston. The Honourable John Henry Glassel Campbell possesses the lands of Longniddry, consisting of one large farm and several smaller pieces let to the inhabitants of the village; he is a minor. Robert Ainslie of Redcoll, having lately purchased Elvingston and Trabroun, now possesses those lands, together with what he formerly possessed. The Honourable Miss Murray possesses Laverocklaw. John Ainslie, younger brother of Robert, has the lands of Merryhatton, which are part of the estate of Huntington. Lord Ruthven, in right of his Lady, possesses the lands of Hodges, and is by far the smallest proprietor in the parish. Only one heritor is resident in the parish,—Ainslie of Redcoll.

Eminent Men.—In the former Statistical Account of Gladsmuir, it is stated that George Heriot, founder of the hospital in Edinburgh which bears his name, was a native of this parish. It appears, however, from an account of his life published in the Scots Magazine in 1802, and from an account afterwards published in 1822, that his father, who was a goldsmith of great respectability, was born at Trabroun, in the parish of Gladsmuir, but that George was born in Edinburgh, June 1563, brought up to the same trade with his father, and held the lucrative appointment of jeweller to the King and Queen. On the accession of James to the English throne in 1603, he went to London and continued there till his death, February 1624. The Heriots of Trabroun were a family of some antiquity in East Lothian.

Dr Robertson, Principal of the University of Edinburgh, began his ministry in this parish. He succeeded his uncle, Andrew Robertson, and was ordained 17th April 1744, before (it is said) a very numerous congregation. He was presented by the Earl of Hopetoun, who singled him out as a young man of great promise. He lived for some years in the old manse, where he composed the greater part of the History of Scotland. He afterwards came to the present manse, where he continued till his removal to Edinburgh. At Gladsmuir, in the retirement of the country, he laid the foundation of that high eminence which he afterwards attained as an historian, as well as in conducting the affairs of the church, being for many years looked up to as the leader in the General Assembly. From Gladsmuir he was translated to Edinburgh, as colleague to Dr Erskine, in the church of the Old Grayfriars, with whom he continued to live in habits of the most friendly intercourse till his death.

William Baillie of Lamington deserves to be noticed here, not only on account of his private worth, but also on account of his munificent liberality to the parish. He was very active in procuring the erection of the new parish. He made a present to the parish of land for the church and churchyard, and for the school, schoolmaster's house, and garden, and built the church at his own expense, and in addition to all this, he allowed the minister, from his colliery at Penston, free coals for the use of his family. Baillie's descendants continued to the ministers of Gladsmuir the privilege which their worthy ancestor had so generously granted, till it was withdrawn by those who had the management of the property, at a period when the succession was doubtful. It is to be hoped this privilege will be again restored. But whether it be or not, William Baillie of Lamington will be remembered as a man deeply impressed with the importance of religion to the welfare of the country, as a benefactor to the church, and an active promoter of her true interests, as long as the parish of Gladsmuir shall exist.

Parochial Registers.—The records go back to the erection of the parish. The first minute is dated at Gladsmuir meeting-house, 26th April 1692.* The records are very defective. After the first volume, which ends in 1707, there are no minutes for thirty years following. There is also a blank from 1804 till 1833, when the present incumbent came to the parish. In the register of baptisms, there is a gap from 1734 to 1760. The list of marriages is also wanting from 1737 to 1766. But besides those defects, the registers of baptisms and marriages do not appear to have been accurately kept.

Antiquities.—There were lately to be found in the parish, the remains of several old mansion-houses; but the tide of time is sweeping them fast away, and levelling with the ground the most stately monuments of former greatness. The mansion of the Douglasses of Longniddry, distinguished for their zeal for the Refor-

* That minute mentions, that the United Presbytery of Haddington and Dunbar had appointed Mr Moncrieff, minister of Saltpreston, now Prestonpans, to be moderator of the Session, for the purpose of uniting with the heritors, in the choice of a minister to the new parish. The heritors were called at the door of the church, intimation of the meeting having been formerly given to them. Whereupon, they and the elders unanimously made choice of Mr Mungo Watson, then minister of the chapel, to be minister of Gladsmuir. He, of course, was the first minister of the parish. It is worthy of notice, that, some time after, as appears from the minutes of presbytery, he got a call to the parish of Linlithgow; but the people of Gladsmuir being attached to him, and having petitioned against his removal, the presbytery refused to loose him from his charge, and he continued minister of Gladsmuir till his death.

mation, is now known only by a circular mound, rising a few feet above the ground, containing the subterraneous vaults which were connected with the building. The wall running along the public road is still called the *Laird's Dyke*; and a part of the field, a little to the north, the Laird's Garden.

The two mansion-houses of east and west Adniston, which anciently belonged to different proprietors, have been so completely demolished, that not a vestige of them is now to be seen. The old house of west Adniston was situate close by the present farmhouse, and was last occupied by two ladies, one of whom was married to the Earl of Winton, the father of the last Earl. It was taken down about twenty years ago, and the materials used in building the present farm-offices. The mansion-house upon the farm of east Adniston was about a quarter of a mile distant from the other, and formerly occupied by the proprietor, Mr Adniston. It was taken down in 1832, to assist in building the present magnificent set of offices at the farm of Greendykes.

At Penston, there was an old mansion-house occupied by the proprietor when he resided in this part of the country, but no remains of it are now to be seen. It was strongly built, with a very thick wall, and the apartments had arched roofs, as was common in ancient times. It stood on the south of the road running through the village, opposite to the barn which has just been built. The garden attached to it still remains. Contiguous to the old mansion-house, was a pretty large store-house or granary, which was built in 1670, as appears from a date on one of the lintels of the door, for the purpose of receiving the rents of the tenantry, which at that time were paid in kind. An old man above eighty remembers, when Dundas of Arniston had the charge of the property, that the farmers used to carry the corn in sacks, upon horses' backs from Penston to Arniston, there being at that time no carriage roads across the country.

Betwixt Penston and Henmuir, are to be seen the ruins of an old windmill, which was employed to draw up the water from the coal. When there was wind, it answered the purpose extremely well; but in calm weather it could not act,—the water got the better of the workmen, and they were thrown idle. This inconvenience is now completely remedied by the use of steam-engines, of which there are two upon the coal-work.

At Seatonhill, about two years ago, when the servants were ploughing in the field contiguous to the farm-house upon the south,

the ploughs struck upon some large stones, which, when dug up, were found to be coffins composed of flag-stones of a peculiar quality, probably a kind of puddingstone, others of a kind of red flag-stone, common in the neighbourhood. The coffins were about 5 feet long by 2 broad, all of them containing bones. More have since been dug out: and it is probable there are many still remaining in the ground beyond the reach of the plough. Specimens of the stones are preserved by the tenant, and are also in my possession. On the eastern part of the same farm, not far from the coffins, an urn was found full of bones. It was broken in the taking up, but the fragments are in possession of Mr Black.

On the farm of Southfield, about a mile to the south of Longniddry, while the labourers were employed in making drains, they found a variety of small silver coins of different dates and sizes, chiefly British. They were given to the tenant, with whom they are to be found. Similar coins were found in the neighbouring farm of Greendykes, some of which are in the possession of the proprietor. It is probable the place had been some military station, where they had been deposited.

Modern Buildings.—There are hardly any modern buildings of consequence in the parish. The House of Redcoll, built about twelve years ago, and inhabited by the proprietor, is a neat substantial building, with a garden and set of good offices. It has a porter's lodge, and an approach from the road of about 300 yards, with a belt of trees on each side.

The house at Southfield was built, about thirty years ago, by the proprietor Mr Gray, and inhabited by him. But when the farm came into the possession of the Earl of Wemyss, it was given to the tenant as a dwelling-house, and has since been occupied by him. It is a small but handsome house, with a considerable number of trees scattered about it. It is open to the north, but quite shut up in the view to the south.

The farm-houses are in general good. A new one was built last year upon the farm of Hoprig Mains. Some have undergone repairs and got additions. Those at Penston and Westbank have got a substantial set of new offices with slated roofs. But, among all the farm-offices in the parish, and I may say in the county, none are to be compared to those of Greendykes. They were built by the proprietor a few years ago, and are more like the offices you might expect to find connected with a Ducal palace, than the house of a tenant.

III.—POPULATION.

From the appearance of ruined houses on both sides of the parish, an opinion has prevailed that the inhabitants were once more numerous than they are now. But by a numeration which was made at the first seating of the church in 1697, it appears that the number of inhabitants then must have been under 1350. When the census was taken by Dr Webster in 1755, the numbers were 1415, and at the time when the last Statistical Account was drawn up the population was 1380. By the census in 1821 it was found to be 1623, and in 1831 it amounted to 1658. Since that time, it has varied very little. Of these, 822 are males, and 836 are females.

From the above statement, it appears that the population in the course of less than a century has increased more than 200. This increase has arisen, not from the introduction of manufactories or public works, (there are none such ; and a brewery, which was formerly carried on at Trabroun, has for many years been given up,) but from the general improvement of the parish. The whole parish, many parts of which about a century ago were bleak and barren, covered with broom, and furze, and brambles, has been gradually brought into a state of high cultivation, and made capable of producing all kinds of crops. In consequence of which, a stimulus has been given to improvement, which, notwithstanding the great depression in the prices of grain, is still going on, and gives employment to a far greater number of families than formerly. Besides, the greater demand for coals, occasioned by the increased consumption from steam engines, must have given employment to an additional number of families. The population residing in the villages of Samuelston, Penston, and Longniddry, amounts to 684; in the country, 974. In that part of the parish inhabited by colliers, the population is constantly shifting, and in the course of two or three weeks may vary from 20 to 50. This shifting has prevailed very much, of late, in consequence of a change of tenants.

The average number of births, for the last five years, was 51, the number varying from 40 to 59. The average number of marriages for the same time was 16, varying from 10 to 24. No account of deaths being kept, the average number cannot be ascertained. There are several persons in the parish above eighty, chiefly men, two of whom have now reached their ninetieth year. The number of families is 358. The number of inhabited houses is 343. In the agri-

cultural part of the parish, five houses are uninhabited. A considerable number of houses allotted for colliers were empty some time ago, but are now mostly occupied. No houses are at present building. There are three fatuous persons connected with the parish, two men, both above middle age, and one woman. There is also a little girl deaf.

Character and Habits of the People.—The people in general are cleanly and attentive to their dress. Their manners have acquired a considerable degree of polish, arising in some measure from their vicinity to the capital, and from the great intercourse that is now maintained all over the country. That rusticity of manners and dress, and outlandish appearance which some time ago characterized our rural population, are fast wearing away, and the manners and dress of the people are rapidly improving. The labouring classes here are in no want of employment, enjoying many of the comforts of life, and in general seem to be contented with their condition. And at no former time, perhaps, was their condition more favourable,—for while the necessaries of life, both with respect to food and clothing, are low in price, their wages are nearly the same as when things were double their present value. Their food is plain but substantial; they are in the midst of coal; and they want only comfortable houses to make their situation what it should be.*

* The lands of Samuelston were so much infested by witches in 1661, that John Earl of Haddington, to appease his tenants, was under the necessity of presenting a petition to his Majesty's commissioner, for the purpose of getting them tried by a court of judicature. The following extract from this commission shews that the arts of darkness continued to be practised by numerous bodies, to the no small terror of the lieges.

“Edr. 3d April 1661. Commission for Judging of Witches, &c. in Samuelston.—To the Right Hon. His Majestie's Commissioner, his Grace, and the Lordis, and others of the Parliament appoyntit for the Articles, the humble petitioun of John Earl of Haddingtoun, Sheweth,—That, upon severall malefices committit of late within and about my landis of Samuelstoune, thair being severall persones suspect of the abominable sin of witchcraft apprehendit and searched, the marks of witches wer found on thame in the ordinarie way, severallis of thame haif made confessioun, and haif dilatit sundrie others within the saidis boundes, and haif acknowledged pactioun with the devile. Thair names are these: Elspet Tailyeor in Samuelstoune, Margaret Bartilman, Mareoun Quheitt, Janet Carfrae. These haif maid confessioun alreadie. Otheris they haif dilatit as partakeris of the same cryme with thame, viz. Christiane Deanes, Agnes Williamsone. Thes are dilatit be the former, and the marks are found on thame, quha ar lykwayes apprehendit, otheris are lykwayes dilatit by thame, namelie, Helene Deanes, George Milnetowne, Patrik Cathie, Anna Pilmure, Elisabeth Sinclair, Margaret Baptie, Janet Maissone, and Margaret Argyile, Elspeth Crawford. Thes are dilatit be the former confessing, bot ar not as yet apprehendit nor searched. And trew it is, that throw the frequencie of the said sin of witchcraft in the saides boundes, my haill tenentes there threatnes to leave my ground without justice be done on these persones. And becaus the lawes ar now silent, this sin becomes daylie more frequent. Also, thair (ar) two otheris persones apprehendit for thift in the foresaide boundes, quhom I haif intertained in prisone within the tolbuith

During the last three years, there were 9 illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The two great divisions of labour carried on in the parish are agriculture and mining, or the working of coals. Agriculture is the principal employment of the people. There are 22 farmers in the parish, occupying land from above 50 to 500 acres each; 9 smaller farmers, occupying from 10 to 40 acres each; and 5 sub-tenants, occupying under 40 acres each. Some of those farmers retain upon their farms, including hinds and their families, and labourers, from 50 to 76 individuals. On the farm of Coates, there is a resident population of 76; on that of Hairlaw, 67, besides others who do not reside upon the farm. The inhabitants of Penston, Henmuir, North mains of Penston, and M'Merry containing a population of betwixt 400 and 500, are chiefly employed in the working of coal. The great London road running through the parish about two miles and a-half, the public road running through Longniddry about two miles, and the North Berwick road

of Hadingtoun upon my ain chairges thes ten weikes by-gane; and other two ar apprehendit for robberie committit be thame within my boundes and landes of Byres thes twentie weikes bygane, within the tolbuith of Edinburgh, upon my own chairges."

The Lord Commissioner and Lords of the Articles, after hearing the petition, granted a commission for putting to death such of the above persons as were found guilty of witchcraft by confession, and for trying the others, which, if we may credit tradition, was put into execution. The field in Samuelston where they were burnt was called the Birlie Knowe, and was situated on the south side of the village, between the Tyne and the mill-dam, where, within these few years, (it being now ploughed up) kimmers bleached their linens clean, and found it a very useful spot, unhallowed as it was.

About this time, a warlock drove a lucrative trade, called Sandie Hunter, (*alias* Hamilton,) whom it is said the devil nick-named Hattaraick. He was originally a nolt-herd in East Lothian, and was famous for curing diseases both in man and in beast, by words and charms. Wherever Hattaraick went, none durst refuse him an alms. One day he went to the gate of Samuelston, when some friends after dinner were taking to horse, a young gentleman, brother to the lady, switched him about the ears, saying, "You warlock carle, what have you to do here?"—whereupon the fellow went away grumbling, and was heard to say, "You dear buy this ere it be long." After supper the gentleman took horse and departed, and crossing Tyne water to go home, he passed through a shady piece of a haugh called the Allers. What he saw there, he would never reveal, but next day he was in a high state of delirium, and had to be bound. The Lady Samuelston hearing of this said, "Surely the knave Hattaraick is the cause of this trouble; call for him in all haste." When the warlock came, "Sandie," says she, "what is this you have done to my brother William?"—"I told him," replied he, "I should make him repent his striking of me at the yait lately." She giving the rogue fair words, and promising him his sack full of meal, with becf and cheese, persuaded the fellow to cure him, which was speedily effected. When Hattaraick came to receive his wages, he told the lady her brother would shortly leave the country, never to return; upon which, she caused him to make a deposition of his property to the defrauding of his brother George. After the warlock had pursued his lucrative calling for some time, he was apprehended at Dunbar, taken to Edinburgh and burnt on the Castlehill.—*Satan's Invisible World*.

Sinclair, from whom the substance of the above is copied, says, that he had the information from the gentleman's brother.—*St Baldred of the Bass*, p. 276-8.

upon the coast, with the cross and parish roads, employ in winter 30, and in summer about 20 men. These men and day-labourers receive from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per day. There are 7 carpenters who employ, upon an average, 10 men as journeymen or apprentices; last year their wages were 2s. 6d. per day. There are 2 masons, wages 3s. per day; 9 blacksmiths, wages from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per day; 2 bakers, wages from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day, with victuals; 4 tailors, who are generally paid by the piece, and whose wages have not risen lately, in proportion to the rise in some other professions; 2 weavers, one of whom is an old man, and able to do very little work.

There are employed at the Penston coal-works 50 colliers, 30 women putters, and 26 boys; and at the St Germans colliery, residing in this parish, 12 colliers, besides women putters and children. A collier and his putter throw out, at an average, fifteen load of coals per day, which is equal to 4s. 4½d. But as there are frequent interruptions, their income can hardly be rated so high for any length of time. The general income of a man and his putter may be stated at from L. 1, 1s. to L. 1, 5s. per week; a load of coal weighs 200 pounds, for which they receive 3½d. Men-servants living in the house have from L. 4 to L. 6 half yearly; women-servants from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3.

Agriculture.—The parish of Gladsmuir contains very nearly 5080 Scotch, or 6386 imperial acres, arable. Some parts of it, particularly the lands upon the north, to the extent of about one mile and a-half from the coast, and running east towards the Byres hills, were very early cultivated, and about the beginning of the seventeenth century bore a very high valuation; as may be seen from an account of some of the parishes of East Lothian, lately printed by Mr M'Donald of the Register-Office. Other parts, particularly the lands in the centre, intersected by the great London road, are of recent cultivation, and of an inferior soil. Here, however, improvements are rapidly going on; lands that long lay waste have been reclaimed, and are now under the most improved system of husbandry. And notwithstanding the very low prices of grain, and the many discouragements from that circumstance, in the way of both landlords and tenants, the spirit of improvement seems to surmount every obstacle. As a proof of this, steam engines for thrashing the crops have been erected on many of the farms, and there are at present in the parish no less than ten employed for that purpose. It is in contemplation to erect more.

In cropping, rotations of five, six, seven, and eight years are followed. The most common are five and seven years. The five years rotation consists of, 1. fallow ; 2. wheat, barley, and oats ; 3. and 4. pasture ; 5. oats. The seven years rotation is, 1. turnips and potatoes ; 2. barley and wheat ; 3. and 4. grass ; 5. oats ; 6. beans ; 7. wheat. The eight years rotation is, 1. fallow ; 2. wheat ; 3. barley ; 4. and 5. grass ; 6. oats ; 7. beans ; 8. wheat.

The kinds of manure employed are byre and stable dung ; lime and earth collected from cleaning ditches, roads, &c. mixed with lime, forming compost ; rape, and bone dust. The rape dust is very generally used. Iron ploughs and harrows are almost universally employed. Machines for sowing grain are getting more and more into use. Turnips are eaten upon the ground with sheep, or brought home to feed cattle bought in about the end of harvest, to be fattened for the butcher, while the straw is converted into manure by cattle kept in the close.

Live Stock.—The number of sheep kept in the parish has of late been upon the increase, and is now betwixt 2000 and 3000. They are bought in as they are required, and are black-faced, but chiefly Cheviot, and a cross breed of Cheviot and Leicester. The milk cows are not of any particular breed. There are a considerable number of the Ayrshire. They are reared or bought as occasion requires, and not more than two or three are kept by each farmer to supply his family with milk and butter. Black-cattle are bought in at the end of harvest, and fed off on turnips for the market. The number of these may amount to about 500. There are $78\frac{1}{2}$ plough-gates requiring 172 horses. Twenty-six are kept for riding and occasional work, and 20 for driving carriages, making in all 218 horses, besides young ones.

The duration of leases is nineteen years. I believe there are no exceptions to this rule. Such a length of time affords the farmer sufficient opportunity to remunerate himself for the expense laid out in the cultivation of his farm. The farms are all enclosed, mostly with thorn hedges and ditches ; and the hedges and ditches are well kept. The farm buildings have been much improved in the course of the last year, and repairs and improvements are still going on. It is to be hoped, as soon as the projected improvements have been made upon the farm-houses and offices, the attention of the proprietors will be directed to the cottages, most of which have great need of improvement.

There are 240 Scotch or 302 imperial acres under wood, includ-

ing belts for shelter, shrubberies, and ornamental planting; 34 imperial occupied with houses, offices, gardens, and common patches in villages; and $7\frac{1}{2}$ with roads, making in all 5353 Scotch or 6751 imperial acres in the parish.

Rent of Land, and Wages.—The rent of land varies from L. 5 an acre to less than L. 1. The average of the whole, this present year, the price of wheat being very low, will be nearly L. 1, 12s. per Scots acre. Farm-servants are hired by the year, and paid partly in money and partly in kind, as follows: $6\frac{1}{2}$ bolls of meal, 4 bolls potatoes, 2 bolls barley, $\frac{1}{2}$ boll pease, 2 stones pork, when pigs are not kept, a cow's grass, and L. 8, 10s. money, with a house, for which the servant furnishes a shearer in harvest for twenty days. When a cow's grass is not given, L. 5 money additional is allowed. In some farms, there is a little difference in the articles which make up the wages; but the amount is nearly the same all over the parish, being equal to from L. 21 to L. 24 money, this present year. In some instances, they are paid in money, and receive 9s. per week. The farm-servants are generally bound to keep bondagers, as they are called, that is, persons to work in the barn and fields when required. They are females or boys, and if the hinds have none of this description in their own families, they must hire them. It was long the practice to hire farm-servants at Christmas or the end of the year, but a resolution was entered into by the tenantry lately, not to hire them till the beginning of February. The average rent of grazing, as near as can be computed, is L. 3 per ox or cow, and 15s. per ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured for the year.

Draining, &c.—Draining is carried on not only in the parish, but in the neighbourhood, to a very great extent. There is little under water, and therefore the object of the farmer is to prevent water from lodging on the surface and injuring the crops. Tiles are chiefly employed, and the drains are frequently made in every alternate furrow, and sometimes even in every furrow. They vary in depth from eighteen to twenty-four inches, and the expense of making the drains and furnishing the tiles is from 10d. to 1s. the rood. Sometimes, the proprietor furnishes the tiles as an encouragement to the tenant to use them in draining his fields. At other times, the whole expense is borne by the tenant himself. The universal opinion among farmers seems to be, that the increase of the crop soon repays all the expense of the drains. Stones also are used, but rarely since tiles have been introduced, they having been found to

answer the purpose. Sometimes stones are employed along with the tiles. This is undoubtedly the most effectual mode; but the objection to it is, that it is both tedious and expensive,—whereas the advantage of tiles, is, that the work is performed with great expedition, and with little expense of carriage.

In some parts of the parish where the soil is deep, particularly at Southfield, trenching has been practised to a considerable extent. Upon this subject there is a diversity of opinion,—some maintain that the new earth brought to the surface requires a considerable number of years before it get into a proper bearing state. This opinion, however, is far from being general; and many hold that the new soil brought to the surface, after a long period of rest, becomes far more productive, the old having been exhausted by continual cropping. The expense of the process must be a great obstacle in the way of its being carried on.

Amount of raw Produce.—In the present circumstances of the parish, the amount of raw produce cannot be very accurately ascertained. Several of the tenants entered upon their farms only last year, and hence their farms were not cropped, either as they had been before, or as they will afterwards be. The farmers, in general, have made the returns required with the greatest readiness. According to the statements received, the amount for 1835 was nearly as follows:

White crop, including wheat, barley, and oats,	2060 acres.
Green crop, including beans and pease, potatoes, turnips, cabbage, and mangel wurzel,	848
Hay,	298
Pasture, including links,	1160
Bare fallow,	714

The value of all which, estimated according to last year's markets, will be about L. 30,000.

The gardens in the parish are not deserving of particular notice. The three mansion-houses, Elvingston, Redcoll, and Southfield, which last belongs to Lord Wemyss, and is occupied by the tenant, have each of them gardens inclosed with a good wall, where all kinds of vegetables are raised, and which are well stocked with fruit trees. Several of the farm-houses have also gardens attached to them surrounded with a wall, in which all kinds of vegetables and fruits are reared. The tenant at Redhouse, on the northern extremity of the parish, has a large mail-garden, the produce of which is disposed of chiefly in the Edinburgh market; but, as most of the garden lies in the parish of Aberlady, it does not fall to be

taken notice of here. The gross produce of all the gardens may amount to about L. 200.

The two coal-pits now wrought on the Penston property produce from 12,000 to 15,000 tons a-year.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest market-town is Haddington, which is about four miles distant from the church. It was long the principal grain market in Scotland; but most of the farmers in the western parts of the county carry the greater part of their grain to Dalkeith and Edinburgh, to both of which places Haddington is now inferior as a grain market.

Villages.—There are three villages in the parish,—Samuelston, Longniddry, and Penston. Of these, Samuelston contains a population of 187. It is an irregular scattered village, situate on the north bank of the Tyne, running north-east by south-west. In former times, it carried on a considerable trade in meal, but though there are still two corn mills, the trade has very much dwindled away. There is also a saw-mill attached to one of the corn-mills, which is of great use in cutting out paling and pieces of wood, for various purposes. There are three farms connected with it, East-mains, Backbrae, and Templehouse,* besides two smaller pieces of land given to the villagers for their accommodation.

Longniddry is situated about half a mile from the Frith, and is also an irregular straggling village. It is completely changed from what it once was. In former times, four tenants lived in it,—one in Cooper's Close, one in Burnfoot Close, and one on each side of the road, about the middle of the village,—who had each a considerable farm. The property has been very much diminished, and the whole has been thrown into one farm, with the exception of a few fields rented by some labourers in the village, who employ horses for carrying on their business. The present farm-house, which is commodious and of good appearance, stands about 200 yards to the south of the road, running through the village. Betwixt that house and the road, there were formerly a considerable number of cot-houses, not a vestige of which now remains, and the place where they stood is under crop, and very productive. The present mansion-house, which is let, stands about a gun-shot to the west of Cooper's Close. The garden is immediately in front, the

* Besides Templehouse in Samuelston, there was in former times in the parish another place of this name, situate in a field betwixt Hoprig Mains and the public road. Some of the old people remember having seen the house.

offices on the west, with a small court, having altogether a desolate appearance. On the east, are the ruins of the old chapel, called John Knox's Kirk, and an old barn and stack-yard, occupied by one of the inhabitants, who has a small piece of land from the proprietor. Adjoining the offices to the west, some of the inhabitants remember several rows of houses, forming a little village of themselves, all of which have been swept away, without a stone remaining to mark the place where they once stood. One old man remembers seventy houses being taken down. At that time, the farm of Southfield formed a part of the Longniddry estate. The present population of the village is 195.

The village of Penston is chiefly inhabited by colliers. The farm-house is at the west end of it, and is commodious and in good repair. A handsome set of offices, with a steam-engine, has just been erected, and also a saw-mill. The houses in the village are in a state of bad repair; the place is altogether dirty, and, though situated in the heart of one of the finest agricultural districts of Scotland, has a very uncomfortable and unhealthy appearance. It stands upon an eminence, about half a mile to the south of the great English road, and a mile west from Gladsmuir kirk. The inhabitants are supplied with water from three open wells, one at Northmains, another behind the old manse to the east, and another to the west of the farm-house, all on a line running from east to west. Were a proper drain to be formed on each side of the road, with a declivity from the houses, it would contribute much to the cleanliness and health of the place. The present population is 302.

Means of Communication.—The means of communication enjoyed by the parish are very abundant. The great London road runs about two miles and a half through the centre of the parish. Along that road, six stage-coaches pass and repass every day, at different hours, besides the mail-coach. On the coast road, the North Berwick coach passes and repasses every day, besides carriers to Aberlady, Dirleton, and North Berwick, on different days of the week. There is also the road running from Coates, past Setonhill and Hairlaw, through Longniddry to the west. These roads are intersected by others running north and south, the whole breadth of the parish. They are all kept in good repair, by which means the facilities of intercourse are very great. The bridges in the parish are merely little arches, suited to the paltry streams of water that flow through them.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situate nearly in the centre of the parish, and is accessible to all the inhabitants. None are farther distant from it than two and a half or three miles; and they do not seem to think the distance of much consequence, for the most distant are as regular in their attendance as those who are nearest. It stands upon the highest point of the ridge betwixt Tranent and Haddington, about 350 feet above the level of the sea, and 240 to the north of the great road. The situation is one of the finest in Scotland. On the north, it commands an extensive view of the Frith of Forth, with the county of Fife stretching beyond: to the east, all those objects that are most picturesque, the Byres hills, North Berwick Law, with the rich country around, the Bass and Traprane Law. On the south, the vale of the Tyne, with the Lammermuirs in the back ground, and to the west the Ochils, and some of the distant hills of Dumbarton and Perthshire, with Leith, Edinburgh, the Pentlands, and the rich country intervening. But, though beautiful in point of situation, its appearance is mean and ruinous. It is small, cold, damp, and in bad repair. The churchyard is sufficiently large for the parish, but it is very wet. The greater part of it is surrounded by a wall, which is much broken down; the remaining part is protected by an hedge, which also is in a state of great decay. The church affords accommodation for 535 sitters, being at least 200 less than would be required for the accommodation of the parish. The heritors granted to the kirk-session sixty-two sittings, chiefly those set apart for the communion tables, to be let for a small price to the people when required. These seats are let at 1s. each, and when not let, are occupied by those who cannot be accommodated otherwise. The rest of the sittings as usual are allotted to the heritors, according to their respective properties in the parish. The church was built by Baillie of Lamington in 1695.

The present manse was built in 1725, previous to which the ministers lived in what is still called the old manse, about a mile to the south-west of the church. The late incumbent finding the manse too small for his family, got a considerable addition made to it in 1803, consisting of a large room below, and two smaller rooms above. When the present incumbent came to the parish in 1833, considerable improvements were made upon the offices, and they are now in a state of pretty good repair. About twenty years ago, the garden was inclosed with a good stone wall, which was built by the heritors, the tenants having agreed to drive the carriages. But,

besides what is enclosed, there is at least a rood outside the walls all around where all kinds of crops are raised.

The glebe is small, consisting only of about 5 acres, including garden, barn-yard, &c. The soil is loamy, upon a clayey bottom. Most of it has been drained with tile and stones within these two years. This year, the field immediately behind the manse, which was wet, uneven, and full of weeds, has been drained and trenched, with the view of its being laid down in grass, in a more favourable state. The annual value of the glebe, estimating it according to the lands in the neighbourhood, is about L. 8. The stipend consists of about 34 bolls of wheat, 137 bolls of barley, 24 bolls of oats, 95 bolls of meal, with L. 10 for communion elements, the amount of which varies according to the fiars of the county.*

There are no chapels nor dissenting meeting-houses in the parish. The number of persons of all ages attending the Established Church varies from 400 to 500. Those who are in the practice of attending are never all present at the same time. From the uncomfortable state of the church, many are prevented from attending who otherwise would do it; and a considerable number are very irregular in their attendance. The average number of communicants is 500. It is not easy to ascertain how many attend dissenting places of worship. The number, however, may be stated to be betwixt 40 and 50. All this leaves a very considerable proportion of the examinable persons of the parish who are not present at any place of public worship on the Lord's day.

A society for religious purposes was instituted, in the beginning of last year. The design of it was to promote the progress of religion in the parish, and to contribute to the objects recommended by the General Assembly. Its contributions during the first year of its existence amounted to L. 6; and they are now upon the increase. The average annual amount of church collections for religious and charitable purposes, for the last five years, is about L. 20.

Education.—Besides the parochial, there are four private schools in the parish. The parochial school is situate at Gladsmuir, close by the church and manse, and is very much shut up by the schoolmaster's garden. The number attending the school is, upon an

* There have been eight ministers of Gladsmuir since its erection. 1. Mungo Watson; 2. John Bell; 3. — Seathrum; 4. Andrew Robertson; 5. William Robertson, ordained 17th April 1744; 6. Francis Cowan, ordained 5th April 1769; 7. George Hamilton, ordained 15th April 1790; 8. John Ramsay, admitted 14th February 1833.

average, betwixt 80 and 100. The branches taught are such as are usual in parish schools, including Latin, Greek, French, and the practical parts of mathematics. The salary is the maximum, L. 34, 4s. 4½d. ; and the school fees amount to L. 40. The hours of attendance are, in winter, from nine to half-past three, with half an hour of interval; and in summer, from nine to four, with an hour of interval. The school-house is too small; but in other respects, it is comfortable enough. The schoolmaster's house is large and commodious, consisting of two apartments below and three above, with closets. It is damp, however. The apartments are very low in the roof, and have much need of repairs. The schoolmaster holds also the offices of session-clerk and heritors' clerk, the fees of which amount to about L. 30 a-year.

There has been a school in the village of Samuelston, from time immemorial. In former times, the master was allowed L. 2 a-year from the heritors; but that has been discontinued for a considerable time. Some years ago, when the schoolmasters' salaries were augmented, an attempt was made to get a chalders of victual to be divided betwixt the schoolmasters of Samuelston and Longniddry; but it could not be obtained. The schoolmaster of Samuelston has a free house and school-house; and he got lately from the proprietor a small piece of ground, as garden ground. That, with the school fees, is all he has to live upon. The school fees are small, and the number of scholars upon an average is about 30, affording the schoolmaster an annual income of about L. 15, a miserable pittance for the support of a man who holds the office of a schoolmaster. Were the schoolmaster of Gladsmuir to depend entirely upon voluntary support, his income could hardly be expected to be much better. To what a lamentable state would education in the country be then reduced !

There is also a school at Longniddry of long standing. Here, too, the schoolmaster is furnished with a free house and school-house. Two years ago, when a new schoolmaster was appointed, the people, very much to their credit, got the school-house repaired and fitted up in a handsome manner. And last year, the dwelling-house having only one apartment, had another added to it, which makes the house pretty commodious. This is the more praiseworthy, as the people are all of the labouring class. The average number of scholars there, last season, was 60. An evening school is also kept for the benefit of those who are at work, through the day. Besides the school fees, the teacher at Longniddry has

two guineas a-year granted him by the proprietor, and the same sum by the Earl of Wemyss, which, though small, is a considerable addition to his income, and is creditable to the Noble proprietors, who thus contribute to the education of the labouring poor, and in this way essentially promote the improvement of the community. The annual income of the teacher here may amount to about L. 25.

A school is also taught at the village of Penston, about a mile to the south-west of Gladsmuir, and consequently within reach of the parish school. This village being chiefly inhabited by colliers, the children are sent early to work; and, after labouring one part of the day, they are sent to school, another part of the day, when there is a school at hand; but were the distance considerable, this object could not be accomplished. It was with a view to such accommodation, that a school was erected and is still kept up at Penston. The teacher has to find a house for himself; and the school-house, through neglect, is in a wretched condition. The number of scholars is small,—last year not exceeding 25. The inhabitants are constantly shifting; and lately the teacher was at the point of giving up the school for want of support. He is an old man, and his whole income last year did not amount to L. 10.

Besides these schools, there is one at Cotyburn, a solitary place at the north-eastern extremity of the parish. This school is taught by a man who was in the army, and has a small weekly pension from Government. He has a dwelling-house and school-house attached to it; for both of which he pays rent. The average number of his scholars is 24, thus affording him an income of about L. 10, which, with his pension from Government, affords him a scanty subsistence.

The price of education per week is from 3d. to 6d., or from 7s. 6d. to 13s. 6d. a-year, calculating the year at three quarters; for, in country schools, the vacations are long, and seldom more than three quarters are paid for. And as 1s. is paid for coals during the winter, the annual expense of education for the common branches amounts to from 8s. 6d. to 14s. 6d.,—besides the expense of books, which is small considered by itself, but great to those labourers who have three or four children at school, and who have themselves an income not exceeding L. 25 a-year.

Sunday Schools.—There are 3 Sunday schools in the parish,—one at Penston, the number of scholars attending which has, for some years, been very fluctuating. This arises, partly from the

difficulty of obtaining teachers properly qualified, and partly from the changes that are constantly taking place in the population. There is another at Longniddry. It began about two years ago. It is well taught and well attended, and has already been productive of much good in the neighbourhood. The third is at Tra-broun, superintended by the Misses Law. But as that property has just been sold, it is doubtful whether this school will be continued.

Parents send their children to school at different ages. Some are sent when only four years old; others not till they are seven or eight. But care is taken that sooner or later all be taught to read. When the parents cannot afford to pay for them, they are paid for from the poors' fund, or by charitable individuals who take an interest in them. In this parish, the schools are so situated that they are accessible to all the inhabitants. There are none, as far as I know, above fifteen years of age who cannot read; but there are many who cannot write. And there are some who have been very imperfectly educated themselves, and, having felt the evils of a neglected education, are anxious to have their children properly instructed.

Libraries.—There are no parochial libraries in the parish. This want is supplied by three itinerating ones, which are stationed in each of the three villages of the parish. These libraries, after remaining two years in their stations, are returned, and new ones sent in their place. In this way, the attention of the people is kept up by a regular succession of new books, which are well selected and arranged under the superintendence of Mr Samuel Brown at Haddington.

Societies.—There are 2 friendly societies in the parish,—one at Longniddry of old standing, and another at Penston, instituted in 1823, both of which are in a thriving state. At Penston, a Mortcloth Society was set on foot more than fifty years ago, by Lady Ross Baillie of Lamington, for the benefit of her colliers there. None but colliers connected with the coal-work have a right to become members. Lady Ross presented the society with three mortcloths, and that number has been kept up ever since for the use of the members, who have now acquired a prescriptive right to employ their own mortcloths, when they bury their dead in the churchyard of Gladsmuir. At Penston, there is also a Coffin Society, the object of which is to discontinue the use of mortcloths altogether. The members are furnished by the society with coffins, decently

covered with black cloth, and no mortcloths are used. Those who are not members may also obtain a coffin from the society, at a cheap rate, by paying for it. This Society was instituted about two years ago. Besides these, there is a yearly Society at Penston, the members of which draw sick money in case of illness, and receive a sum of money for the burial of their dead. Connected with the parish is a Frame Society for the protection of the dead, to which the greater part of the parish belong. The safes are of malleable iron, and of a construction such as is usually employed. When used, they are generally sunk about two or three feet below the surface of the ground. A Savings' Bank was instituted some years ago, but it gradually died away, and now no longer exists. A Curling Society was begun in December last, but there having been very little frost, the ice was never in a condition to be played upon, and the members of course were deprived of an opportunity of displaying their skill.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons upon the poors' roll is 41; and the average sum allowed to each per week is 1s. 3d. The sum allowed varies according to circumstances. Some get 1s., some 2s., some 3s., and one family gets 4s. per week. In addition to which, most of them get a cart of coals, in the course of the winter. A collection is made at the church for this purpose, which comes far short of what is laid out for coals. Whatever is deficient is taken from the poors' fund. Besides those who receive a regular allowance, there are always some who receive occasional aid, in cases of distress or unexpected misfortunes. Five, in addition to their weekly allowance, get their house rents paid.

The average amount of annual contributions for their relief for five years is L. 200, 9s. 3d. of which L. 167, 17s. arises from an assessment which is laid on once a-year, at a meeting of heritors called for the purpose. The collections at the church amount to L. 16, 6s. 5d.; mortcloths L. 4, 18s. 2d.; putting in stones for marking burial ground 17s. 5d.; seat rents, 11s. 7d.; marriages, &c. L. 1, 8s. 8d.; interest of a bill for L. 170, L. 8, 10s. The poor, with a very few exceptions, are all paid in money, and, therefore, in the present depressed state of the grain market, their allowance is much greater than when provisions are dearer. The poor in general have little reluctance to apply for parochial aid, whenever they think it can be obtained. Children also who are living in comfortable circumstances, are very much disposed to leave their aged parents to shift for themselves, or to get relief for them from the parish. The collections at the church are very small, chiefly

from an idea, which very generally prevails among the labouring classes, that there is no occasion for them to give any thing to the poor, because what they give is just so much saved to the proprietors, who are bound by law to support them. In this way the divine law of charity, in these times of innovation, is too generally evaded.

Alehouses.—There are, at present, in the parish, ten public houses, or houses licensed for retailing spirits. It cannot be doubted that so many of them, when they are not needed, have a very pernicious influence upon the morals of the people. When there are so many persons anxious to get customers to their houses, they cannot be expected to be very careful to prevent that excess in drinking which prevails among us to such an extent. The act permitting publicans to keep their houses open on Sundays ought immediately to be abolished, as one of the most ill-advised that was ever sanctioned by a British Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the former Statistical Account was drawn up, a striking improvement has taken place in the roads, in the cultivation, draining and fencing of the fields. Different kinds of manure have also been employed with success. The farm-houses and offices have undergone a proportional improvement. In consequence of the depressed state of the markets, some of the tenants are beginning to throw more of their fields into pasture, which promises not only to make them a suitable return, but which will prevent them from being exhausted by overcropping. It also appears from the former Statistical Account, that 134 black-cattle were kept; now they amount to 500. Then the number of sheep was 100; now they amount to betwixt 2000 and 3000. Then rape-cake and bone dust were never thought of as a manure; now they are very much employed. All this shews the great attention that is paid to the enriching and improving of the soil. The wages of labourers and tradesmen also have risen almost an half, while the price of provisions and clothes has been as low as at that period.

Gladsmuir kirk has often been remarked as liable to be struck by lightning. A remarkable instance of this happened 21st July 1789. It is thus described in the former Statistical Account:—“A thunder-storm began in the north, and came gradually nearer, having circled round by the west. The school, where above seventy children were then assembled, unfortunately stood in its way. The thunder burst upon the house, and seemed at first to

have levelled it with the ground. The walls were rent, the windows shattered, and the roof demolished. A thick darkness, caused by the smoke and dust, for a while concealed the extent of the mischief. When it subsided, the neighbours who first entered, anxious for the fate of their children, had reason to fear the worst; for few signs of life appeared. The whole crowd of little ones, either stunned or terrified, lay stretched upon the ground beneath the tables or benches where they sat. Many were quite senseless, but afterwards recovered. Two boys were killed outright, and the master with many others much injured. The effect of such a scene is not soon worn off from the minds of children. A black cloud still terrifies the whole school, and a clap of thunder more than ordinarily loud, scatters the whole little troop in an instant." Another instance afterwards occurred. While a storm of thunder and lightning was passing over the place, the family at the manse were alarmed, and darkened the windows. The females crowded together in the middle of the dining-room for shelter. One of the maids who had occasion to go up stairs, had no sooner got to the bottom of the stair, than the lightning struck the house and killed her in an instant. To prevent such fatal accidents in future, conductors were placed upon the manse, and are still there.

September 1836.

PARISH OF DIRLETON.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN AINSLIE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.*

Name.—THE parish of Dirleton lies in the county of Haddington. The etymology of the name is very doubtful, some deriving it from the Scottish "*dirl*," which signifies a tremulous motion; others from Derili, who was King of the Picts about the end of the seventh century, and is believed to have been the friend and coadjutor of Baldred, who first built Christian churches in East Lo-

* In drawing up this account, the writer begs to acknowledge his great obligations to John P. Wood, Esq.; Robert Hope, Esq. Fentonbarns; and Mr Henderson, parochial teacher.

thian. Brudi V., son of Derili, granted the island of Lochleven to St Serf and the Culdees residing there.* (Hist. Culd. 131.)

The village of Gulane, two miles to the west of Dirleton, formerly gave its name to the parish. Its old name was Golyn, so called from an adjoining piece of water, now drained; Golyn in the British signifying a little lake.

Extent and Boundaries.—This parish forms the most northern part of the county. From east to west it is $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length; its greatest breadth from north to south is $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth; on the south by the Peffer, a rivulet which separates it from the parish of Athelstaneford; on the east by the parish of North Berwick; and on the west by that of Aberlady.

Topographical Appearances.—Its shape is compact, nearly resembling a tortoise with its head to the west. It is composed of two parallel ridges, of gentle elevation, which run from east to west, and trisect the arable land into nearly equal parts. Its general appearance is flat, and rather uninteresting,—richness of soil much more than picturesqueness of scenery being its characteristic feature. So far back as the year 1627, we have in a Statistical Account of the parish at that period,† the following testimony to its fertility: “There is no occasion of lyming within the Lordschipp of Diriltoun, siclyke ther growes noe quheate in all the toun of Gulane, Elbottle, and most pairt of the Colledge steid.” But though the general aspect of the parish be tame, it is greatly relieved to the north by the Frith of Forth, with its many interesting islands, and also by the village of Dirleton, which, for locality and

* According to Wintoun there was another of the same name, called Nectan Derly, who reigned in 716.

Sevyn hundyr wynter and sextine,
Quhen lyghtare was the virgyne clene,
Pape of Rome than Gregore.
The second quham of yhe herd before,
And Anastas than Emproure,
The fyrst yhere of hys honoure,
Nectan Derly was then regnand,
Owre the Peychtis in Scotland.

Wintoun's Cronykil, Vol. i. B. v.

† This document is one of those drawn up at this time by order of Government to the different Presbyteries of Scotland, forty-eight only of which are preserved in the Register-Office. The Account of this parish was kindly communicated to me by A. M'Donald, Esq. Register-Office. Its commencement runs thus: “Estate of the kirk and paroche of Dirletoun answerable unto the articles conteaned in the ordinance of his Majesty's Commissioners, quhilk estate is given up by Maister Andro Makghie Minr. &c.” Its information is, however, confined to a statement of the rent and teind of the land, or, in its own words, “for tryall of the worth and rent of everie rounge of the parochine in stocke and teind, we declair as followis.”

external decorations, forms a marked contrast to the rest of the parish. It is delightfully situated on a rising ground about a mile and a half from the sea, a view of which it commands; to the east, North Berwick Law, the Bass, and the Island of May, add greatly to the beauty and interest of the scene; while the venerable castle, on a rock of considerable elevation, at the eastern extremity of the village, overhanging with its "ivy-mantled towers" a beautiful flower garden, and some of the finest evergreens in Scotland, together with the fine open green in the centre of the village, which is composed of neat, and in some cases, singularly tasteful cottages, ornamented with shrubs and flower plats, all combine to form one of the loveliest villages in the country. The coast, about eight miles in extent, is, towards the east, flat and sandy; advancing westwards it becomes rocky, and, in some places, almost bold; further west, where it joins Aberlady parish, we have again a fine sandy beach, beneath which is a strong clay. Some parts of these sands are unsafe, from which serious accidents have resulted. Half way between Gulane and Dirleton, the links assume a peculiar and interesting aspect, starting off from almost a dead level into a singularly irregular form, presenting quite the appearance of a mountainous district in miniature. I do not know whether this be owing wholly to the drifting of the sand, or in some measure to the form of the subjacent rocks. There are three islands belonging to the parish; Fidrey or Fetheray, Ibris or Eyebrochy, and the Lamb. The first of these is situated directly opposite the village of Dirleton, about a mile from the shore. Its appearance is highly picturesque, the western part is of considerable elevation, and is united by an isthmus to the eastern part, which rises in a castellated form, and is called the Castle of Tarbet. Formerly it was tenanted by rabbits, which have been supplanted by a colony of rats, brought thither by a vessel that was wrecked on the island.

Climate.—The climate is found to be peculiarly trying for those affected with pulmonary complaints. Agues and nervous diseases, according to the last Statistical Report of 1792, were common at that time. The former are now unknown, which is to be ascribed to the draining of the land.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth, as already stated, is the northern boundary of the parish. There are, besides, two small sluggish streams differing little from large drains, the Millburn and the Peffer, which is believed to signify "the slow running river." The latter is the southern boundary of the parish; it rises at Cong-

alton, at the south-east corner of the parish, and immediately divides into two streams, one running east, and falling into the sea near Tynningham, the other west, which, after a course of eight miles, falls into the sea at Aberlady.

Geology.—The formations here are of the secondary class, the sandstone or great coal formation, with their accompanying rocks of igneous origin. It is to these we owe any slight elevations that are to be met with in the parish. The sandstone throughout seems to be buried beneath these—appearing only occasionally here and there, having been forced to the surface by the rise of the igneous rocks. Gulane Hill, however, of considerable height, is of sandstone, part of which is regularly quarried, and produces excellent freestone; ironstone is also to be found there in considerable quantity, and was at one time wrought. The igneous rocks present the different varieties of whinstone or secondary trap. In the middle of the parish, and also on the coast, we have basalt, and at one place its characteristic features are beautifully developed. Some time ago upwards of thirty pentagonal pillars were laid bare in the farm of West Fenton. The parish, as already observed, is composed of two parallel ridges, running east and west. The centre of the southern ridge, from Fenton Tower on the east, to the village of Fenton on the west, rests on whinstone, which crops to the surface occasionally through its course. At the latter place, basalt makes its appearance, and continues the ridge for about a mile further to the westward. Limestone is found within the tract of the basalt, possibly raised by it to the surface, but it dips so rapidly to the south, as to have been considered unworthy of being wrought. It is also to be met with at the bottom of the whinstone quarry at Burnside, near the east side of the parish: but from the depth of the covering, and from the declination of the strata, dipping to the south at an angle of upwards of 30° , it has never been wrought. In the northern ridge, the whinstone appears again at Dirleton, with the bare face of the rock to the west, and its tail of water-worn stones and till, covered with more recent soil, stretching eastward. This rock is of felspar porphyry, in which occur frequent veins of a dark-red jasper. The western end of this ridge rests on freestone and ironstone, near Gulane, the surface being poor; barren sand. Coal has been found on the north-east side of the parish; but as it rises nearly to the surface of comparatively high ground, within a few hundred yards of the sea, and dips rapidly beneath the low flat ground along

the shore, there is no probability of its ever being wrought with advantage.

In the southern part of the parish, the whinstone rock is found overlaid with clay of different colours, mixed with rounded water-worn stones, to the depth of 10, 14, and 30 feet. In one part, viz. the site of Fenton Barns, the whinstone forms a basin of 300 yards in diameter, and is filled to the level with the above deposit. In deepening the Peffer, in 1829, the workmen found a deer's horn, imbedded in the hard till, 7 feet below the surface, in a mixture of clay and minute gravel. About a mile further east, on the banks of the same stream, in a soft clay, there have been found a considerable number of oak trees from 5 to 10 feet below the surface; nuts also and millet-seed in considerable quantity were discovered,—their position seeming to indicate the action of water. They grew readily when put into the ground. Boulders from 1 to 3 feet long, occur imbedded in the soil, a mile to the east of the basalt rock, which forms the western extremity of the southern ridge of the parish; none, however, have been found to the west of that rock. The coast is composed of beautifully rich sand, and of the whinstone and basalt, already spoken of, interspersed with sandstone; in several places, it is evidently making advances upon the sea. The islands also are of the trap formation.

Soil.—About 300 acres along the southern side of the parish are soft moorish soil, naturally wet, on a very retentive subsoil; furze and heather seem to have been their natural productions. On the northern side of the parish, above 400 acres are dry, sandy, or gravelly rich loam; the remainder of the arable land is generally hazel loam on till, or a clayey bottom. From Gulane, eastward, there are about 100 acres covered with sand, which seems to have been transported by the wind from the hill that stands to the west of that village. Tradition, fifty years ago, used to assign its commencement to the time when the gap, still so obvious, was made in the hill; and in the Statistical Report of 1627, the precise period of its commencement seems obviously to be pointed at, for it is said, “the gleib is so overblown with sand, as, the largest aiker thereof has not been manured these five yeiris by-gone;” and elsewhere, after enumerating the different lands in Gulane, it thus concludes: “As for the rest of the few aikers of Gulane, they are all lying waste, and unlaboured, and never licklie to be laboured. Besides the rent of the rest of the land of Gulane quhilk we have given up, cannot be counted constant rent, in respect the samyn is licklie to be overblown more with sand;” and

in further corroboration of this opinion, there is to be found beneath the sand, a clay soil, in which old ridges are to be distinctly traced.

In Aberlady parish, to the west of this, a similar catastrophe has taken place; a few years ago, whole fields were laid bare of the sand, beneath which were discovered crooked old-fashioned ridges in a fine clayey loam. But at whatever period the blowing of the sand commenced, (and the probability is that it was about the beginning of the seventeenth century,) it must have originated in the removal of the brushwood, and binding plants which covered the hill. The mischief is still increasing, and instead of any measures being taken to prevent it, a portion of the hill is annually ploughed.

Botany.—From the highly cultivated state of the parish, the situation is not favourable for the botanist. It is only on the sandy common on the coast, that a few of the rarer plants have been found. In the cultivated fields, there are found abundantly, the *Silene noctiflora*, *Sherardia arvensis*, *Centaurea Scabiosa*, and occasionally *Alopecurus agrestis*, *Silene conica*, *S. Anglica*, *Saxifraga tridactylites*, and *Fedia dentata*. *Campanula hybrida* has also been discovered this summer (1836,) in the neighbourhood of the village. In the summer of 1835, a continental species of *Alyssum* was discovered in an uncultivated field a mile and a half from the sea. The species is the *calycinum* of Linnæus. This, it is believed, is the first British station in which the plant has been found. Gulanelinks, in this parish, are well known to botanists as the station for *Utricularia vulgaris*, *Inula dysenterica*, *Samolus valerandi*, and *Limosella aquatica*. The other vegetable productions are those found on light sandy shores.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Ancient Family of Vaux, &c.—The Anglo-Norman family of Vaux or De Vallibus obtained in the twelfth century a part of the manor of Golyn and Dirleton, with part of the lands of Fenton. The daughter and heiress of William De Vallibus, Lord of Dirleton, brought these estates to her husband, Sir John Halyburton, about 1340. Their grandson, Sir Walter Halyburton of Dirleton, High-Treasurer of Scotland, or his son, Sir John Halyburton, was created a peer before 2d January 1447–8. Patrick, sixth Lord Halyburton of Dirleton, died 1506, being succeeded in his title and estate by his eldest daughter Janet, married to William second Lord Ruthven. Their son, Patrick Lord Ruthven and Dirleton, was grandfather of John Earl of Gow-

rie, whose attempt upon King James VI., 5th August 1600, terminated in his death and forfeiture. It appears that Dirleton was the bribe which he held out to the cupidity of Logan of Restalrig to engage his assistance in that affair. Logan in one of his letters says, "I care not for all the other land I have in the kingdom, if I may grip of Dirleton, for I esteem it the pleasantest dwelling in Scotland." On the forfeiture of Gowrie, Dirleton was granted to Sir Thomas Erskine, one of the first who came to the assistance of the King, and who killed with his own hand Alexander Ruthven while struggling with James. He was created Lord Dirleton in 1603, and Viscount Fenton on the 18th March 1606, from a property in this parish,—this being the first instance of that title in Scotland. He was in 1619 created Earl of Kellie. These titles are now held by the present Earl of Marr. Dirleton appears to have passed by purchase from that family to Sir John Maxwell of Innerwick, who is known to have had a royal charter of Dirleton, Fenton, &c. in June 1631. In 1646 he was created Earl of Dirleton and Lord Elbottle, both titles being taken from this parish. These became extinct on his death before 1653, as he left no male issue. His two daughters were, Elizabeth Duchess of Hamilton, and Diana Viscountess Cranburn, mother of the third Earl of Salisbury.

Family of Nisbet of Dirleton.—Dirleton was purchased in 1663, by Sir John Nisbet, then the most eminent lawyer at the Scottish Bar, afterwards Lord of Session and King's Advocate. He was second son of Sir Patrick Nisbet of East Bank, Lord of Session, was born in 1610, and died in 1688. His only surviving child, Joanna Nisbet, was married first to Sir William Scott of Harden, Knight; and second to Sir William Scott of Thirlestane, Bart. Having no issue he settled his great estates on his nephew, William Nisbet of Craigintinny, Member for the county of Haddington in the last Parliament of Scotland, and in the first of Great Britain. From him descended the late William Hamilton Nisbet, Esq. of Beil and Dirleton, also Member for the same county, whose daughter and heiress is married to Robert Ferguson, Esq. of Raith, the present Member for Haddingtonshire, for which he was returned in 1835.

The castle of Dirleton, which as a ruin is still in good preservation, was built by the family of Vaux or De Vallibus, about the twelfth century, and from its present appearance must have been a large and strong place. In June 1298, when Edward I. invaded Scotland by the eastern border, no place resisted him except the castle of Dirleton. During the siege, about the beginning of

July, the English soldiers, reduced to great scarcity of provisions, subsisted on the pease and beans which they picked up in the fields, presenting a favourable view of the state of agriculture in East Lothian so far back as the thirteenth century.

After a resolute defence, the castle surrendered to Anthony Beck, Bishop of Durham. It was still in the possession of the English in 1306, as appears from the Wardrobe accounts of Edward I., containing entries of provisions and ammunition for the castle of Dirleton. When Cromwell invaded Scotland in 1650, the castle was, after a gallant defence, taken by Lambert, and by him dismantled and reduced to its present ruinous state.

Ancient Family of Livingston.—Saltcoats in this parish, now a ruin, belonged to an ancient family of the name of Livingston. Nisbet in his Heraldry notices a seal inscribed Sig. Patricie Livingtoun de Saltcoat, 1593. The first of the family is said to have received a grant of land extending from Gulane point to North Berwick Law, for having destroyed a boar which infested the neighbourhood. This tradition is somewhat confirmed by the fact, that the estate of Saltcoats extends from Gulane point almost to North Berwick Law, though many other properties intervene. The glove by which Livingston is said to have protected his arm during the combat was sold about fifty years ago, and his helmet hung in the family aisle in the church, till very recently, when it disappeared. A good painting of the fight was some years since in possession of an old servant of the family. There is a small stream at the north of the Peffer, called Livingston's ford, where the boar is said to have been slain. Another account gives to Prora (a farm in Athelstaneford parish) the honour of this exploit; one of the fields there being called the "Bloody Lands," in which there is a large stone, evidently raised at considerable expense, the name of which is the "Boar stone." This estate of Saltcoats came by an heir female to the Hamiltons of Pencaitland, from whom it descended to the present proprietor, Lady Ruthven.

Fentonbarns.—Fentonbarns, in this parish, belonged to John Preston, Lord of Session from 1596–1609, and Lord President of that court, from 1609 to his death in 1616. He settled Fentonbarns on his second son, Sir Michael Preston of Fenton, who, 10th February 1631, in a quarrel with two brothers of the name of Smith, in the neighbouring village of Drem, killed one, and severely wounded the other. He was immediately apprehended, tried before the Justiciary court, 15th February, convicted and beheaded at the Cross of Edinburgh, the same or the next day.

Congalton.—The barony of Congalton in this parish, gave name to a very ancient family, that subsisted here for twenty generations in the male line. The first on record is Robert de Congaltoun, who witnessed a charter of Richard de Mereville, Constable of Scotland, without date, but granted about 1162, engraved in Anderson's *Diplomata*. The elder branch of the family succeeding through heiresses to the estates of Hepburn of Keith, in East Lothian, and Rickart of Rickartoun, in the county of Kincardine, assumed the names of Rickart Hepburn.

Robert Hepburn Congalton, of Keith and Congalton,—the eighteenth generation of the family, sold Congalton to his brother Charles, whose son, William Congalton of Congalton, married Mary, daughter of David Bethune, of Balfour in Fife. His son, Charles Congalton of Congalton, succeeding to the estate of that ancient and distinguished family, of whom was Cardinal Bethune, took the name and arms of Bethune of Balfour, and sold Congalton, which was afterwards purchased by the heir-male, Colonel Robert Rickart Hepburn, of Keith and Rickartoun, Member of Parliament for the county of Kincardine, who, dying in 1804, was buried with his ancestors in the church of Golyn. Congalton was sold to William Grant, Esq., in whose family it remains.

“On 8th May 1509, a Royal Charter was granted by King James IV. to Henry Congalton, of Congalton, of the King's Island and lands of Fetheray, along with the hill of the castle (*Monte Castri*) of the same called Tarbet; also all and whole the King's Island and lands of Craigleith, with the pertinents of the same, lying within the Frith of Forth, county of Edinburgh, and constabulary of Haddington, creating, uniting, annexing, and incorporating all these islands, lands, and hill of the castle aforesaid, with the pertinents of the same, in one whole and free barony, to be called the barony of Tarbet, to be held of the King, paying one penny of Scots money, at the said hill of the Castle of Tarbet, in name of blench farm if required, along with the marriage of the said heirs of Henry Congalton, when it shall happen.” Great Seal Register, Book 15, No. 115.

Ancient Chapels, &c.—In Golyn parish there were three chapels, subordinates to the church. 1. As early as the reign of William I. there was a chapel dedicated to St Nicolas, on the Island of Fidrey, the ruins of which still remain. 2. In the twelfth century, Congalton of Congalton founded a chapel for the use of his family and people near Congalton; the place where it stood is still called Chapel. Disputes arose with the Rector of Golyn, but were settled

in 1224, to the satisfaction of both parties, by the Bishop of St Andrews, the diocesan. 3. During the reign of Alexander III. Alexander de Vallibus founded a chapel at Dirleton, in honour of All Saints, engaging that this chapel should not derogate from the Mother Church of Golyn.—At Dirleton, there was founded a collegiate church, with a small establishment, by Sir Walter Halyburton; its endowment seems to have been inconsiderable, amounting at the time of the Reformation to L. 20 only.—At Elbottle, (a name now given to a plantation north of Archerfield, and which is an abbreviation of the Saxon word Eldbotel, signifying the old dwelling,) there was a convent of Cistercian nuns, a cell of the great establishment of those nuns, founded by David I. at Berwick-upon-Tweed.—There was, it is said, another cell of the same establishment at Golyn, near the church, probably, however, identical with Elbottle. These nuns appear to have acquired a right to some of the tithes, and other ecclesiastical dues of the parish of Golyn.

The ruins of the old parish church of Golyn are still in good preservation. A view of these is given in Grose's Antiquities, where it is stated that the last Vicar of Golyn is said to have been deposed by James VI. for the high crime of smoking tobacco, a weed which his Majesty deemed fit only for diabolical fumigations. No authority, however, is given for this assertion. Near the Chapel's Waas, at the cross roads between Dirleton and Drem, on the south, and between Fenton and Kingston on the east, numerous tumuli have been found; these were generally formed of two pieces of pavement, one on each side; the same number above and beneath, with one at each end. Bones imbedded in black earth were frequently found in these graves, which were almost all of short dimensions, being about three feet long. The stone of which they were formed is not to be found in the parish, unless it be within the sea shore, near the Island Eyebrochy. A stone-hammer, thought to be of great antiquity, was lately turned up in a field; it is about 8 inches long, and 3 broad at the eye. In draining a pond near West Fenton, a piece of pipe about a foot long, inserted in a stone, was found: no account could be given of it. Not very far from the same place, at the junction of the Mill-burn and the Peffer, in a field called the Fisher's Nooks, the foundations of a good many houses have been laid bare, from which, and from the name of the field, it is conjectured that the sea may in former times have reached this point. It is now several miles distant from the coast.

I am not aware of the existence of any old ballads referring to this parish. There is a single couplet preserved, date unknown, which has handed down the memory of a man, probably the then possessor of a property, now belonging to the Elibank family. He is not, however, much indebted to fame. It runs thus :

“ For a’ that fell at Flodden Field,
Rouny Hood o’ the Hul cam hame.”

Eminent Persons.—Sir John Nisbet of Dirleton, styled by Bishop Burnet, “ one of the worthiest and learnedest men of the age, a person of great integrity, and who always stood firm to the law,” was second son of Sir Patrick Nisbet of East Bank, Lord of Session. He was born 1610, admitted Advocate 1633, and rose to the head of his profession, in which he was eminently successful, realizing a most ample fortune. He was Lord of Session and King’s Advocate from 1664 to 1677, being the last person who held these two offices together. He died in 1688. His “ Doubts and Questions in the Law, especially of Scotland,” were published in 1698. They are esteemed so highly, that Chancellor Hardwicke says of them, “ Dirleton’s doubts are better than most people’s certainties.”

In the old pulpit Bible, (printed at Amsterdam 1642,) there is the following inscription : “ This book was given to Sir John Nisbet of Dirletoune, Knight, his Majesty’s Advocat, for the church of Dirletoune, 12th May 1670.”

Land-owners.—Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ferguson is the principal proprietor of the parish, and patron of the church. About two-thirds of the lands belong to her, and she is the superior of nearly the whole. Her kindness and liberality to her tenantry are too well known to require any notice, and the estimation in which she is held by them all, is the best proof of the interest which she ever takes in their welfare. She is the constant friend of the poor ; and to her taste, no less than to her liberality, is the village of Dirleton indebted for the many marked improvements which, of late years, it has undergone.

Mansion-Houses.—The mansion-house of Archerfield, belonging to Mrs H. N. Ferguson, is the only one in the parish deserving notice. It is a plain commodious building, situated in a level park, skirted with plantations, and commanding to the east a fine open extensive view of the Frith. The other proprietors of any extent are, Lady Ruthven, Countess of Dalhousie ; Miss Grant ; Mrs J. Bruce ; and James Cochrane, Esq. of Muirfield. The latter alone is resident.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest entry in these is 1656. They consist of three volumes, in very good order, which is due to the care of Mr Henderson, the present parochial teacher, who found them in great confusion. They have been regularly kept, with the exception of a blank of above thirty years, from 1681 to 1713.

III.—POPULATION.

In the old document already referred to, the number of communicants above sixteen years of age, is said to be “never below 800, never above 900.” This is nearly the double of the present number, and seems to intimate a very great diminution of the population since that period. What that diminution, however, is, it is impossible to ascertain, as the number of communicants is materially affected by the religious state of the people, and by other circumstances besides the amount of the population.*

In the year 1755, according to Dr Webster, the population of this parish was 1700. In this, however, there is obviously some mistake, for in the Statistical Account of 1792, it is stated, that no great alteration had taken place in the number of inhabitants for fifty years previous to that date, at which time the population was only 1200. Since that period, however, it has materially increased; for according to the census of this year, made by myself in visiting the parish, it is 1431. As there has been no introduction of manufactures or public works to account for this difference, it must be ascribed to the improvements in agriculture, requiring a corresponding increase of labourers. The population resides principally in four villages. The average number of marriages is 12; births, 32. Of the deaths no account of sufficient accuracy is kept, to warrant a statement of them. The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards is 13.

Character of the People.—The peasantry are in general industrious, moral, and exemplary in their attendance on religious ordinances. In dress, there has been of late years a marked advance. Their cottages also have been materially improved in comfort and cleanliness. The pigstye and dunghill form no longer the foreground decorations, and in many places, especially in the village of

* That it has, however, decreased, the above proves beyond doubt, and this is confirmed by the Act of Parliament of 1612, for translating the kirk from Gulane to Dirleton, in which the following is given as one of the reasons for the removal: “Considering likeways that the town of Dirletoun is ane flourishing toun,” a description scarcely applicable to the present “toun of Dirletoun.”

Dirleton, have been supplanted by roses and evergreens. In some of the lately built cottages, there are two rooms,—an example well worthy of imitation, as eminently conducive to the morality, no less than to the comfort and health, of the people.

With a few exceptions, they are all in tolerably comfortable circumstances, possessing enough, by prudent and careful management, to support, and clothe, and educate their families.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—This parish contains 7500 Scotch acres, of which 5325 are arable, 300 under plantation, and the remainder is composed of links and bent hills.

With a very small exception, the whole is let on lease for either nineteen or twenty-one years; a period considered advantageous alike for proprietor and tenant. There are 10 farms above 300 acres in extent; 5 above 200; two between 70 and 80; and two between 20 and 30. These are all inclosed chiefly with thorn hedges and ditches, where the subsoil is of a retentive character. The general size of the inclosures is about 20 acres; the fences and farm roads are thought to occupy nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the entire surface. By a recent county regulation, sanctioned by Parliament, every 60 acres of arable land is deemed a ploughgate, for which the tenant pays annually L. 1, 16s. as road-money.

Some of the smaller properties are understood to be let at a money rent of from L. 2 to L. 5 per Scotch acre; the rest of the parish, at a grain rent of from 5 to 12 bushels per acre, payable by the second fiars, or general average of the county. Gulane common forms nearly one-half of the links, but pays rent only for the rabbits which it supports; the other links are stocked with cattle, and a few sheep occasionally, and yield about L. 400 a-year, besides the value of the rabbits, which fluctuates considerably; it amounts in some years, for the whole parish, to upwards of L. 800.

At Gulane there are two establishments for training race-horses, the ground in that neighbourhood being favourable for this. The average number kept during the summer is about thirty. Whatever advantages these establishments may confer on the parish in other respects, it is to be feared that they do serious injury to the morals of the neighbourhood.

The plantations are chiefly on weak sandy soil; the thinnings produce a small sum annually, but are probably of more value to the neighbouring farmers, to be converted into palings, than of direct profit to the proprietor.

Produce, &c.—The crops raised are,—Turnips about 200 acres, one-third white, the remainder Swedish. Barley about 200 acres, the greater part Chevalier; 3 bushels per acre are generally allowed for seed. Wheat about 1300 acres,—Hunter's generally preferred, but the woolly-eared, Belton red, and some other kinds, are sown to a limited extent; from 9 to 14 pecks per acre allowed for seed. Oats about 700 acres, two-thirds Angus, the rest chiefly the potato sort; 4 bushels per acre for seed. Beans and peas, and tares; about 600 acres of these are generally grown; 4 bushels per acre allowed for seed. Of potatoes, 100 acres are annually raised, about 20 acres are yams; the rest the common varieties,—10 or 12 cwt. per acre are allowed for seed. Carrots, lucerne, and mangel-wurzel have been cultivated to a very small extent. Clover and rye-grass, about 700 acres are annually sown; two-fifths of these are cut for hay, and green food, the rest is pastured. 4 lbs. of white, and 8 or ten lbs. of red clover, with occasionally a pound or two of yellow, and 2 pecks of rye-grass, is the quantity of seed allowed per acre. The rotation of crops is on the fine dry soil, the four-course shift, viz. turnips, barley, grass and oats; on all the other kinds of soil, the six course shift is followed, viz. fallow, wheat, grass, oats, beans or peas, and wheat. There is occasionally a partial deviation from these. Bones are used but to a small extent for manure. About 100 tons of rape cake were used last year. A very considerable supply of sea-ware also is got after a storm from the east. The last Statistical Account states, that at that time this was burnt, and yielded about 12 tons of kelp yearly. This manufacture has been discontinued since that period.

Draining.—The draining of the parish is in course of being made very complete. Springs have long since been laid dry, and tiles are now extensively employed for carrying off the surface water. On the soft moorish land, a drain is made in every second furrow, or 36 feet asunder. The result has been most satisfactory. Two individuals last year made, each, drains to the extent of about 12 miles.

Live Stock, &c.—The stock consists of cattle and sheep; of the former there are about 468 fed in the parish annually, besides 114 milch cows; of the latter, about 100 scores of the Cheviot, Leicester, and black faced breed. There are about 300 pigs annually fed, the most of which are used by the farm-servants. Of horses, there are 204 draught horses, and 18 for the gig and saddle: about 22 are bred annually.

The steam-engine for thrashing is coming into general use, there being now nine in the parish.

Average produce per Scottish acre : Wheat 36 bushels ; barley 42 do. ; oats 60 do. ; beans and pease 28 do. ; potatoes 9 tons ; turnips 24 do. ; hay 180 stones ; cow's grass L. 5 ; ewe and lamb from 15s. to L. 1.

Wages.—The population, as already noticed, is almost entirely agricultural. The hinds' wages are paid in kind. They receive 72 bushels oats, 18 do. barley, 18 do. pease, with about 90 yards of an 18 feet ridge, planted with potatoes ; the same extent sown with lint, together with their food in harvest. Each hind has also a cow, generally kept on the farm, the keep of which is worth L. 6, which, with his potatoes, enables him to keep a pig. Labourers have 9s. a-week through the year ; young men and boys from L. 1, 10s. to L. 5, half-yearly, with their food in their master's house ; and women and girls for field or farm labour 6d. to 9d. a day. Blacksmiths receive from the farmer L. 2, 10s. for a pair of horses. The cast metal for the plough, and the new rings for the cart wheels, are not included in this. Wrights generally furnish the timber for their work ; 2s. 6d. a day is their common allowance.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages, &c.—The nearest market-town where the farm produce is sold is Haddington, distant seven miles. A very considerable quantity of the grain, however, is driven to Edinburgh, a distance of twenty miles. There are four villages in the parish ; Dirleton, with a population of 92 families ; Gulane, 59 ; Fenton, 40 ; Kingston, 22.

Means of Communication.—Daily communication is kept up with Edinburgh by the North-Berwick coach, which passes through the parish, and also by carriers almost every day. There is a daily post from Haddington, and two post-offices in the parish.

The roads are good, though foot-paths are still much needed. The turnpike road divides the parish from east to west. The fences are also good, and carefully kept, consisting chiefly of hedges and ditches.

Ecclesiastical State.—The original name of the parish, as already stated, was Golyn, from the village of that name. The ruins of the old church there are still in good preservation. It was dedicated to St Andrew as early as the twelfth century, and was liberally endowed, particularly by the families of Vaux or De Vallibus of Dirleton, and Congalton of Congalton ; in the ancient taxation it is rated at the large sum of 80 merks. The church was granted by William de Vaux, in the reign of King William I., to the monks of Dryburgh, along with its tithes and other pertinents,

reserving to his son William the rectory of Golyn during his life. This grant included the patronage of the church; and on the death of William de Vaux the rector, a vicar was appointed by the monks of Dryburgh to serve the cure. With them the patronage continued till the Reformation. On the dissolution of religious houses, the lands and patronages belonging to them were disposed of by the king. The patronage of Golyn went to the Erskines, Earl of Marr, and Lords Cardross, who got the Abbacy of Dryburgh. In an act of Parliament in favour of James Maxwell, quoted afterwards, it is ordered that "a charter be expedie under the Great Seal, granting him and his heirs in the barony of Fentoun, the right of patronage of Dirletoun, parsonage and vicarage thereof." Such charter was accordingly expedie 25th July 1636. The position of the church being at the western extremity of the parish, was found very inconvenient, and by the subjoined act of Parliament, of date 23d October 1612, it was ordered to be removed to Dirleton.* It appears, however, that the church only had been then removed, the manse and glebe still continuing at Gulane; for Mr M'Ghie in his Statistical report of 1627 thus speaks: "Siclyke he hath ane manse and ane gleib in Gulane, a long myle from the kirk of Dirletoun." Six years after this, these also seem to have been transferred to Dirletoun. An act of Parliament was passed 29th June 1633, in favour of James Maxwell of Inner-

* 23d October 1612. Act for translating the kirk of Gulane to Dirleton.

"Our Soverane Lord and Thri Estaittes of this present Parliament, understanding and being crediblie informit that the kirk of Gulane is situat at the outsyde of the haill parochin thair of, quilk is ane great parochin, and is sa incommodiouslie situat besyde the sea sand, that the same, with the kirk yard thair of, is continewallie over blawin with sand; that nather the kirk serves commodiouslie for convening of the parochiners, nor yet the kirk yard for thair burial, besydis mony utheris inconvenientis staying the saidis parochiners in time of storme and unseasonable weather to convene at the said kirk, and considering lykwayis that the towne of Dirletoun is ane flourishing towne, and lyis within the said parochin of Gullane, within the middle thair of, and it is the will and intention of the haill parochiners of the said kirk of Gulane that the same kirk be transportit fra the said towne of Gulane to the said towne of Dirleton, as weill for the ease and commoditie of the parochiners as of the ministers serving the cure of the said kirk. Thairfore it is thocht maist expedient, be our Soverand Lord and Estaittes foresaidis, that ane kirk and kirkyard be erected and biggit within the said towne of Dirletoun, for serving the haill parochiners of the kirk foresaid, and to that effect it is statute and ordainit be these presentis, that it sal be lesum to Thomas Viscount Fentoun, Lord Dirletoun, &c. to demolishe and cast down the said kirk of Gulane, and to transport the stanes haill tymmer work and otheris materiallis thair of, to the said town of Dirletoun, for bigging of ane new kirk within the samyn, providing that the said Viscount obtene the consent thairto of the presbyterie within the quilk the said kirk of Gulane lyis and the consent of the parochiners thair of, or the maist part of thame, and that in the mayn tyme the said Viscount find and furneis ane sufficient hous and place within the said towne of Dirletoun, whair the word may be preachit and the sacramentis administered to the saidis parochiners, quill the said kirk be sufficientlie biggit and finishit.

wick (afterwards Earl of Dirleton, who, it will be remembered purchased this property shortly before this period) narrating that “the situation and name of the parish kirk of Gulane are both changed, and that the kirk thereof is now situat besyde the toun of Diriltoun, and called the kirk of Dirleton, that the minister’s manse of the said kirk of Gulane is ruinous and the gleib overblown with sand, and that the said James Maxwell of his own free good will, and for the zeal he has to God’s glory, is content to provide another manse and glebe to the minister of the said kirk and his successors, therefore ratifying the said alteration of the place and name of said kirk of Gulane, and ordaining the same to remain in all time coming where the same is presently situat, and to be called the kirk of Diriltoun.” This account is fully corroborated by Mr M’Ghie himself, who gives the following doleful statement of his own condition. “The glebe is so overblown with sand as the largest aiker thereof has not been manured these fyve yeires bygone; the rest doth scarslie yeild the own seed, as is notourlie knowen. And this his stipend is not sufficient, pairtlie in respect of the great defect of his gleib, pairtlie in respect of his onerous charge of the congregation, and pairtlie in respect of his numerous familie, having a wiffe and seven children to sustane.” The present church, situated immediately to the north of the village of Dirleton, is in the most eligible situation that could have been chosen. It has been repaired lately, and is now capable of containing 600 people. The attendance at church is regularly good: the number of communicants is about 480. There are eighty-seven individuals, including children, dissenters in the parish. The nearest dissenting chapel is in North Berwick, distant two miles and a-half. The manse, situated close by the church, was built in 1825; by the liberality of the heritors, it is one of the best in the country. The glebe is very nearly 11 acres in extent, of excellent land, and is at present let for $2\frac{1}{2}$ bolls of wheat per acre. The stipend is 17 chalders, two of these being wheat, $7\frac{1}{2}$ barley, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ meal, besides L. 8, 6s. 8d. in money.

Benefactions.—The accumulated stock, arising from mortifications and other sources, amounts to L. 880, which is lent on bond to Mrs H. N. Ferguson, who liberally gives 5 per cent., paid half-yearly. The following bequests are included in the above sum. George Livingston of Saltcoats, left to the poor 400 merks. He died October 23d 1704, aged 41 years. William Nisbet, of Dirleton, left to the poor of Dirleton L. 1000 Scots. He died Oc-

tober 20th 1724, aged 58 years. John Heriot, farmer in Castle-mains, left to the poor of Dirleton L. 100 Scots. He died March 19th 1725, aged 60 years. William Nisbet of Dirleton, left to the poor of Dirleton, L. 1000 Scots. He died May 19th 1733, aged 35 years. Mrs Carmichael of Saltcoats, with consent of her husband, the Honourable Mr William Carmichael of Skirling, Advocate, assigned to this session, July 1755, a bond for L. 100 Sterling, with interest from Martinmas 1753. Mrs Carmichael gave also to this session L. 50 Sterling, for educating poor children in this parish January 1761. At her death in 1776 she left L. 20 more, to purchase books for poor scholars at Dirleton school. Mrs Hamilton of Belhaven, who died in 1797, bequeathed a legacy of L. 50 Sterling to the parish of Dirleton, "the interest of which to be divided yearly at Christmas, amongst the three oldest poor people on the roll, in any way that is most to their comfort, over and above what they should have as parish pensioners."

The weekly amount of church collections averages L. 1, 5s., the explanation of which will be given under the head Poor Funds.

Education.—In the Statistical Report of 1627, it is said "we have neyther provision, nor foundation for a schoole in all the parochie, bot a great necessitie thair of, especiallie in the town of Diriltown, if it could be had." There are now three schools in the parish,—the parochial school in Dirleton, and two private schools, one in Gulane, the other at Kingston. The average number of scholars is as follows: Dirleton 80, Gulane 50, Kingston 80. To the last of these a considerable number of the children come from the two adjoining parishes. The branches of education taught are reading, writing, and arithmetic, and at the parish school, in addition to this, Greek, Latin, French, mensuration in all its branches, together with geography and book-keeping. The parochial teacher has the maximum salary, L. 34, 4s. 10d. The school fees amount to about L. 30. The teacher at Gulane is generously allowed by Mrs Ferguson, L. 5 per annum, a free school-house and garden. The school at Kingston has been lately much enlarged and improved, by the liberality of John Dixon, Esq. residing there. There are thus ample means provided for the education of the whole parish. That this is fully taken advantage of, I fear cannot be said: nay, I should be inclined to suspect, that the anxiety of parents for the education of their children is rather declining. This may be ascribed in some measure to the depressed state of agriculture for some time. I am not aware,

however, of any of the rising generation, who are not now in the course of receiving the common branches of education; the heritors having generously provided means for educating the children of the poor.

Library.—There are three libraries in the village of Dirleton, the first the parish library, purchased by collections at the church, consisting of 161 volumes, chiefly religious. The second, the subscription library, of 121 volumes, miscellaneous. The third, of 130 volumes for the school. There is also occasionally an itinerating library from Mr Brown of Haddington. It is to be feared, that they are not so much valued as they ought to be.

Societies.—In the year 1763, a friendly society for the parish was established, “for the support of its members under affliction, and for the decent interment of themselves and wives.” This society continues still to prosper, having at present 140 members, and is in possession of L. 250 of stock. It is open for tradesmen, servants, and others, betwixt the ages of sixteen and twenty. It has been attended with decidedly beneficial effects; and it were to be desired that it should receive more encouragement from the wealthier classes in the parish.

Savings Bank.—There is also a savings bank in the parish, instituted in the year 1819. The present deposits amount to L. 290; the number of depositors is 36: and perhaps it may be of some importance to remark, that the class chiefly benefited by it are the female house-servants.

Poor Funds.—Previous to the year 1823, the poor of this parish were provided for by assessment. At that time the late Rev. Mr Stark, the excellent and able minister of the parish, set himself to the task of effecting an entire change in the administration of the poor funds, by substituting voluntary contributions in room of the assessment.* That system has been followed ever since, with considerable success; in proof of which the following statement of the funds, and number of the poor on the roll is given.

DR.	Poor Funds, 1821.	CR.
Jan. 1. Balance,	L. 1 0 6	36 poor on the roll, L. 124 5 0
Assessment received,	97 18 6	Legacy interest to 3 oldest
Collections,	21 8 4	paupers, 2 10 0
Interest of stock,	44 0 0	Casual poor, including house
Mortcloth,	2 11 8	rents, poor scholars, coals, and
		incidental expenses, 33 8 2
		Balance, Dec. 31, 1821. 6 15 10
	<hr/> L. 166 19 0	<hr/> L. 166 19 0

* See a full exposition of his views in his interesting volume entitled “A consideration of the affairs of the Poor, by the Rev. W. Stark.”

DR.				1835.	CR.			
Jan. 1. Balance,	-	L. 62	3 10	25 poor on the roll,	-	L. 94	16 0	
Collections,	-	84	6 0	Legacy interest to 3 oldest				
Interest of money,	-	44	0 0	paupers,	-	2	10 0	
Mortcloth.	-	5	2 8	Casual poor, including house				
				rents, coals, poor scholars, and				
				incidental expenses,		35	3 10	
				Balance Dec. 31, 1835,		63	2 8	

From this it is evident, that there has been a considerable reduction in the number of paupers; but in addition to this, and what is of infinitely more importance than the amount of money saved, it is believed that it is promoting in some measure the revival of that wholesome spirit of independence which an assessment never fails to destroy, and strengthening the power of the relative ties, which it so fearfully impairs. It is but fair, however, to add, that it is not in the full sense of the word voluntary, as there exists an understanding among the proprietors and tenantry that they shall contribute a certain sum weekly at the church door. This, however, is not enforced, and of course the burden of the support falls upon the more generous, and on those who are most regular in their attendance at church.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

We have already stated our belief, that, since the time of the Statistical Report of 1627, the population of the parish must have diminished very considerably, though to what extent, or from what precise cause, it is impossible to ascertain. Since the period of the last Statistical Account (1792,) in consequence of the improvements in agriculture, it has materially increased, the number being then 1200, and now 1431. It is somewhat singular, however, that the average number of births and marriages, so far as can be ascertained, of that and the present period, is very nearly the same; while it is believed that, in the present, there is a considerable diminution in the deaths.

The real rental of the parish was, in the year 1790, L. 6000, and is now supposed to be about L. 10,227, or nearly the same as the valued rental in Scots money. No account is given in the report of 1627 of the gross rental, but the rent per acre seems to have varied from one to two bolls, for we have many such statements as the following: " George Home has 6 aikers worth in yearlie rent to him 6 bolles. Patrick Lindsay has eleven aikers worth 20 bolls." The crops cultivated by the last report were,

			<i>Present.</i>
Wheat,	-	500 <i>Acres.</i>	- 1300
Barley,	-	800	- 200
Oats,	-	1200	- 700
Pease and Beans,	-	500	- 600
Turnips,	-	50	- 200
Grass,	-	1000	- 700

Of potatoes it is said, in the former Report, "they now constitute a great part of the living of the common people, and are much cultivated." At present there are 100 acres grown. The land under cultivation was then 4020 acres; at present, 5325. Mr Nisbet of Dirleton was beginning then to plant trees. Now there are 300 acres under wood. "The people were then beginning to enclose their fields;" now there is hardly one open field in the parish—and the contrast between the present and past state of the roads will be sufficiently understood, when it is stated that, fifty years ago, one-half of the road between Dirleton and North Berwick was repaired every spring by the very primitive method of ploughing, rolling, and harrowing.

There seems to have been no assessment at that time, and the number on the poor roll was 40; at present, with our increased population, we have only 25. In the dress of the peasantry there is a marked improvement; the homely articles of domestic manufacture being now entirely supplanted by others of a finer and more elegant texture.

The wages of male house-servants have risen considerably. They were then from L. 6 to L. 7, now from L. 8 to L. 12; female house-servants then had from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3, now from L. 4 to L. 9. The condition of the hinds also is improved. They now receive 24 bushels of oats annually more than at that period, and as more valuable varieties of oats and barley are now cultivated, the additional advantage to them from that source is equal to a stone at least of meal on every quarter of grain which they receive. The keep of the cow is also superior to what it was then. In regard to education, it is not easy to form any comparative estimate. There is little reason, however, to believe that any great progress has been made; the education of the old people appearing to be of very much the same character, and equally widely diffused as among the rising generation. In respect of morals, there is the same difficulty in coming to an accurate opinion. The general impression, however, of those who have lived longest in the parish, is decidedly favourable to the present time. We know not whether the following extract from the kirk-session re-

cords of 3d December 1671 will warrant an inference in favour of the improved state of the parish. It is curious, however, and as such we give it. "Given to ye sklatter, Patrick Thomson, for sklatting a part, and pointing another part of the church, 4 lib.; to his servant for *drink money* 3 B. 4d. And spent with him in *drink* 6 B. 8d.; for nails 15 B.; sum of all the particular proceedings 5 lib. 5 B."

In the absence of authentic sources of information, we cannot speak decidedly, yet we think it may be confidently presumed that a progressive improvement in the moral and religious character of the people must have accompanied the faithful and devoted exertions of their late pastor, who, for so many years, ministered among them. To testify their sense of his worth, and their value of his services, an elegant obelisk, with a just tribute to his memory inscribed, has been erected by the parishioners of Dirleton.

Statistical table,—being in part a summary of the foregoing Report:

Number of square miles in the parish, 14	Population in 1811, - - 1211
Ditto of acres, - - 7500	in 1821, - - 1311
Ditto do. arable, - - 5325	in 1831, - - 1385
Ditto do. in plantations, - 300	in 1836, - - 1434
Ditto do. in old pasture and waste lands, - - 1875	Individuals belonging to the Established Church, - - 1350
Valued rental of parish, Scots, L. 10,227 10s. 4d.	Do. to the Dissenting, - 87
Real rental supposed nearly the same, Sterling, - -	Average number of marriages, 12
Number of farms, - - 22	of births, - 32
Length of leases, 19 or 21 years.	of deaths, unknown.
Amount of crops usually raised.	Number of farmers, - - 22
Wheat, 1300 acres Turnips, 200 acres	Do. of farm-servants, - 142
Barley, 200 Grass, 700	Smiths, - - 10
Oats, 700 Potatoes, 100	Weavers, - - 7
Pease, 600	Wrights, - - 11
Amount per Scotch acre.	Tailors, - - 9
Wheat, 36 bushels, Potatoes, 9 tons.	Shoe-makers, - - 8
Barley, 42 Turnips, 24	Bakers, - - 3
Oats, 60 Hay, 180 stone,	Masons, - - 6
Beans and pease, - 28 bushels,	Slaters, - - 2
Work horses, 204	Hind's wages averaging 10s. a week.
Saddle and gig-horses, 18	Day labourer's do. 1s. 6d. per day.
Ploughgates charged for statute labour, - - 88½	House-servant's do. from L. 8 to L. 12.
Actual number of ploughs, - 100	Female, do. do. L. 4 to L. 9.
Number of cattle fed yearly, - 468	Tradesmen, do. 2s. 6d. to 3s.
of milk cows, - 114	Churches, - - 1
of sheep, - 2000	Number of sittings, - - 600
of pigs, - 300	of communicants, - 480
Thrashing mills, - 22	Schools, - - 3
Of these steam, - 9	Dirleton parish-school, number of children, - - 80
Meal and flour windmill, - 1	Gulane private, do. - - 50
Population in 1791, - - 1200	Kingston do. do. - - 80
in 1801, - - 115	Salary of parish school, L. 34, 4s. 10d.
	Branches taught, reading, writing. and arithmetic.

Fees per quarter, 2s. 6d. 8s. 6d. 4s. 6d.	Allowances from 1s. to 4s. per week, and
Higher branches, 7s. 6d.	L. 1 at death,
Number on the poor's roll in 1836, 25	Savings bank instituted 1819.
* Sum distributed for past year, L. 132, 9s. 10d.	Numbers of contributors, 36
Average monthly allowance to each, 6s.	Amount of stock, L. 290
Lunatics, - - - - 4	Ordinary class of contributors, working-classes.
Friendly society instituted, 1763	Libraries, - - - - 2
Amount of capital, - - - L. 250	Villages, - - - - 4
Number of members, - - - 140	Post-offices, - - - - 2
Annual payments about - - - 10s.	Public-houses, - - - - 8

Nov. 1836.

PARISH OF SPOTT.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

REV. ROBERT BURNS THOMSON, MINISTER. †

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of this parish seems always to have been the same, with a slight difference in the orthography, being sometimes written *Spott*, and sometimes *Spot*. It is a name which appears not inappropriately to have been given to it, on account of its retired sheltered situation.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish is ten miles long, and five broad. It is intersected by an extensive tract of land, which till lately was in a state of common, and known by the name of Dunbar common, and considered to belong to the parish of Dunbar. It is now divided; and whether the portions of it contiguous to other parishes are now to be regarded as forming part of these parishes, has not been determined. Were it not for the interposition of this common, the parish of Spott would be of an irregular oblong figure. It is bounded on the north by Dunbar; on the east by Dunbar and Innerwick; on the south by Cranshaws; and on the west by Stenton and Dunbar.

Topographical Appearances.—The whole parish is an alternation of hill and dale, the hills gradually increasing in height till we reach the highest ridge of this part of Lammermuir, 700 feet above the level of the sea. Doon hill, which is situated

* This includes the occasional poor, and also four lunatics.

† This Account was furnished, while the parish was vacant, at the request of the Superintending Committee, by the Rev. John Thomson, Prestonkirk.

about a quarter of a mile south west of the village, is upwards of 550 feet above the level of the sea.

Hydrography.—There is nothing deserving the name of a river in the parish. The largest rivulet is Spott water, which runs through the valley in which the church and village are situated. It is joined, a little farther down, by a smaller brook, which runs close by the mansion-house of Spott, and it falls into the sea at Broxmouth, where it takes the name of Broxburn. There is another on the south side of the parish called Bothwell water, which falls into the Whitadder near Cranshaws. Springs are numerous on the banks of the rivulets. The town of Dunbar is supplied with water from St John's well, in the neighbourhood of the village. Kisthill well, near Bothwell, was once held in repute for the cure of scorbutic complaints.

Geology.—The geology of the Lammermuir hills is too well known to require any lengthened description. They are composed almost entirely of grauwacke, distinctly stratified, through which trap rocks are to be seen protruded in various places. There is also a considerable extent of old red sandstone, filling up to a certain level most of the valleys, especially along the courses of the different rivulets. There occurs also a considerable portion of conglomerate, which is composed of fragments of all the rocks which are to be found in the district. The irregular range of hills which are to be seen along the northern base of Lammermuir, in this parish, and the neighbouring parish of Innerwick, where we first meet with cultivated ground, is chiefly composed of this conglomerate, at least so far as the writer of this has been able to discover. Doon hill seems also to be formed of this. On the south, it is cultivated to the summit, and on the north side, which is very precipitous, much resembling some of the trap rock hills which frequently occur farther to the north and west in the county, it is covered entirely with wood. The ridge of rising ground, which is lower down on the opposite side of Spott water, is composed of a red-coloured sandstone, which occurs throughout the whole of the ridge, stretching eastward to the sea coast at Broxmouth, and westward as far as the parish of Yester. It is quarried in the parishes of Dunbar, Spott, Stenton, Whittingham, and Bara. It varies a little in colour at different places. Whether it be the same formation, which occurs at these several places, the writer is not prepared to say : so far as he has seen, it is nowhere interrupted by trap rocks.

Soil.—The soil is in general light and sandy, well adapted for the cultivation of turnips. But there is a considerable extent also of clay-soil, about a fourth perhaps of the parish.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Events.—The principal historical event connected with this parish, is the battle of Dunbar or Doonhill, fought between Cromwell and General Leslie, on the 3d of September, in the year 1650. The latter had pitched his camp on the summit of Doonhill, where he might have held at defiance the army of the Commonwealth, had he not, contrary to his own better judgment, been forced by the indiscretion of the clergy, who accompanied his army, “to descend into the plain, with a view of attacking the English in their retreat. Cromwell, looking through a glass, saw the enemy’s camp in motion, upon which he exclaimed, ‘The Lord hath delivered them into my hand,’ and gave orders immediately for an attack. The Scots, though double in number to the English, were soon put to flight, and pursued with great slaughter.”* The remains of the encampment are still distinctly to be traced on the top of the hill.†

Land-Owners.—The chief land-owners in the parish are : James Sprot, Esq. of Spott, patron of the parish ; Colonel Carfrae of Bowerhouses, (both of whom have residences in the parish.) ; the Duchess Dowager of Roxburghe ; the Earl of Haddington ; Sir George Grant Suttie of Balgone ; and Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ferguson of Biel.

▪ Hume’s History.

† A minister of Spott, named John Kello, was executed in 1570, for the murder of his wife, Margaret Thomson. As the case is altogether a singular one, the circumstances connected with it may be here briefly detailed. The murder was committed on a Sabbath. Having before divine worship suspended his wife behind a door in the manse, he repaired to the church where, in the course of the service, he was remarked to have delivered a more than usually *eloquent sermon*. The services being over, and the congregation dismissed, he went to the residence of a neighbour, stating to the lady of the house, that his wife (Mrs Kello) had for some time been rather in a depressed state of mind, and that he had called to request that she would kindly come over and join them in their family dinner, and endeavour to cheer her up. The request was at once complied with. On arriving at the manse, to the seeming amazement of both, the doors and windows of the manse were found barricaded. After some little time, Mr Kello contrived to effect an entrance : A few moments after, he came running to a window, exclaiming to the lady who accompanied him, “My wife, my wife, my beloved wife, is gone.” Kello being a man who had credit for real piety, was never for a moment suspected of having perpetrated the murder. Such crimes, however, seldom escape the Divine vengeance, even in *this* world. Some time after, being confined by indisposition, he was visited by Mr Simpson, then minister of Dunbar, to whom he related that on the preceding night he had dreamt a distressing dream regarding his wife. This Mr S., probably from some suspicions in his own mind, at once applied to the dreamer, saying in the words of the Prophet Nathan to David, “*Thou art the man.*” Conscience stricken, he made a full confession of his crime, and was executed at Edinburgh shortly afterwards.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of the parochial registers is, of births 1748, of marriages 1789. There is no register of deaths. The above appear to have been regularly kept.

Antiquities.—Besides the remains of General Leslie's camp on Doonhill, there are still visible the remains of another camp on a hill to the south-west of the village, supposed to be of Roman, or perhaps Danish origin. Part of an ancient spear was lately found near this camp, and is now in possession of the proprietor of Spott.

The parish and village of Spott was of old renowned as the habitation of witches. In the kirk-session records, dated 1698, we find the following statement: "The session, after a long examination of witnesses, refer the case of Marion Lillie, for imprecations and witchcraft, to the presbytery, who refer her for trial to the civil magistrate; the said Marion generally called the *Rigwoody witch*:" and in October 1705, "many witches burnt on the top of Spot Loan." It is generally believed, that the last witch who was executed in Scotland was burnt at Spott; a stone commemorative of the event, and marking the place of execution, is to be seen a little way to the east of the manse.

Modern Buildings.—Of these, the principal are the mansion-houses of Spott and Bowerhouses. The former is delightfully situated at the foot of Doon hill, on the side of a ravine formed by the rivulet mentioned above, and commanding a beautiful and extensive view of the flat country about Dunbar—the Bass Rock, Isle of May, and south-east coast of Fife. The latter, though situated considerably lower down, near the northern boundary of the parish, commands the same extensive view. Spott House has undergone considerable repairs since it came into the possession of the present proprietor. The mansion house of Bowerhouses is entirely new, and not yet fit, indeed, for habitation. The parish church is very old, and cannot boast of any beauty, either in point of architecture or situation. Part of it is said to be Saxon. The parish school-room, and schoolmaster's house, have been lately rebuilt, and are both elegant and convenient. There are two oat-meal mills in the parish.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the amount of population was	727
1791,	619
1801,	502
1811,	561
1821,	582
1831,	612
In 1831, there were of males, 308, of females, 304.	

The population seems to have decreased materially between 1755 and 1801, probably owing to the farms having been reduced in number, and increased in size; the number of farmers in 1730 having been 21; in 1791, 7; now in 1836, there are 6 resident and 2 non-resident.

The yearly average for the last seven years, according to the session registers, is

of births,	.	13 $\frac{1}{2}$
of marriages,	.	4
of deaths,	.	11 ^a

The average number of persons under 15 years of age is	223
betwixt 15 and 30	- 165
30 and 50,	- 127
50 and 70,	- 77
upwards of 70,	- 20
Number of insane persons	- 1
deaf and dumb,	- 1
blind,	- 1

The only heritor at present residing in the parish is the patron, James Sprot, Esq. of Spott.

The whole number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, is 6.

Popular Customs.—These are the same here as in other parts of East Lothian. The custom of going about as guyzards, on the evening before new-year's-day, once universal and not confined to the lower orders, is now gradually falling into disuse. Old Handsel Monday is strictly observed as a holiday, in every part of this county; on that day, all the younger branches of a family assemble together, and spend the day in the house of their parents, and all work is most scrupulously abstained from.

Character of the People.—The farm-servants in East Lothian enjoy the comforts of society, according to their rank in life, to a greater degree than the working-classes in most other parts of the country; and though the gains of the hinds or married ploughmen have, from the low price of grain, in which their wages are paid, been for some years past considerably diminished, they are in general well contented with their condition, industrious, and devoted to the interest of their masters. Their ordinary food consists of wheat or barley bread, mostly baked by themselves, pork and salt herrings, potatoes and oatmeal porridge. Tea is very generally used by the females; and in the Lammermuirs oatmeal cakes

^a There is no register of deaths, but the above is the number given in the former Statistical Account, which cannot be far from the truth as to the present period, the number of births and marriages, and the amount of the whole population having been almost the same then as now. Births were 11 $\frac{1}{2}$, marriages 4 $\frac{1}{2}$, whole population 611.

are used, but they are wholly unknown among the peasantry in the low part of the county. The people, as is generally observed in all agricultural districts, are remarkable for honest industry: and in so far as their external moral conduct is concerned, they are undoubtedly superior to those of the manufacturing districts. Smuggling has long been unknown on this coast. Poaching in game is perhaps more or less practised.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The number of imperial acres which have been cultivated is, as nearly as could be ascertained, 2800; the number which have never been cultivated, in the part of the parish to the north of Dunbar common, is 980. The extent of the farm of Bothwell, which lies to the south of Dunbar common, detached from the rest of the parish, and of which very little is fit for cultivation, the writer of this Account has been unable to ascertain. There may be about 100 acres of wood in the parish, mostly natural, on the steep sides of conglomerate hills; except what is found surrounding the mansion-houses of Spott and Bowerhouses.

Rent.—The valued rent of the parish, as stated in Sir J. Sinclair's Statistical Account, is L. 4355, 3s. 3d. Scotch. The modern rent is exceedingly variable. The land in the low part of the parish lets as high as the average of good turnip land in other parts of East Lothian. The rent is paid according to the middle fiars prices of wheat, and varies every year. Some of the muir farms are rated so low as 3s. 4d per acre.

Rate of Labour.—The rate of farm-work, when paid by the week, is from 9s. to 10s. in summer, and 8s. in winter. Married farm-servants, hired by the year, receive in grain, potatoes, cow's grass, and other perquisites, what has been computed, according to the low price of grain for the last two years, not to exceed 8s. per week, which is lower than the wages of an ordinary day-labourer—only it must be taken into consideration, that the pay of the latter ceases when he is unable to work from sickness, which is not the case with the former. Young unmarried men, when hired as ploughmen, receive from L. 4 to L. 7, per half-year, with bed and board. Masons' and carpenters' wages are generally 3s. per day in summer, and 2s. 3d. in winter. These rates of labour are not given as what are peculiar to this parish, but what are common in the district.

Live-Stock.—Grazing being practised to a considerable extent by the principal farmers, a corresponding attention is paid to the breeds of cattle and sheep. All the improved breeds introduced

into the county by John Rennie, Esq. of Phantassie and others, are grazed on the various farms; and great numbers of sheep of the Leicester, Cheviot, and black-faced breeds, and of black and short-horned cattle are annually fattened on turnips.

Husbandry.—It is needless to say, that the general character of husbandry pursued is of the most improved kind. This parish can boast of some farmers as much distinguished for zeal, and enterprise, and success, in their profession, as any in East Lothian. Turnips are cultivated to a great extent, and on some farms the land is grazed always for two, and occasionally for four or five years. There are various rotations followed, according to the various soils. On what is considered a heavier soil, the ordinary rotation is, 1. turnips; 2. barley or wheat; 3. two years grass; 4. oats. On the lightest soils, the following is the rotation: 1. turnips; 2. barley, or wheat; 3. grass for three years, and occasionally for four or five years; 4. oats. On a strong clay soil the rotation is either, 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. one year grass; 4. oats; or, 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. grass; 4. oats; 5. beans and pease; 6. wheat. A considerable extent of waste meadow or muirland has been reclaimed, and brought under the plough, on the north base of the Lammermuirs. Bones, rape-dust, and other manures, not the produce of the farm-yard, are more or less used by every farmer. The general duration of leases, and that which is found to be most advantageous, for both landlord and tenant, is nineteen years. The state of farm-buildings and enclosures, is in general good. It would be an improvement, were slates used instead of tiles. The roads, in this parish, with the exception of that between Spott village and Dunbar, are not in very good repair.

Produce.—The annual average gross amount of raw produce, raised in the parish, is, as nearly as can be ascertained, as follows:

Produce of grain of all kinds,	L. 10836	0	0
turnips and potatoes,	4045	0	0
Yearly value of land in grass,	2544	0	0
<hr/>			
Total, L.	17425	0	0

Manufactures.—The only thing of this sort carried on in the parish, is a manufactory of potato-starch, or flour, on the farm of Easter Broomhouse. It employs six women for six months in the year. The flour is principally used by manufacturers of cloth; and sometimes by bakers and confectioners in large towns.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market towns.—The nearest market-town is Dunbar; but the

greater part of the grain raised in the parish is sold at Haddington. Dunbar is the market from which the common necessities of life are procured by the inhabitants of the north part of the parish. Those in the west part of it may sometimes resort to the village of East Linton, in the parish of Prestonkirk, or to the village of Stenton; while those in the extreme south most frequently resort to Dunse. The only village within the parish, is the village of Spott.

Means of Communication.—Dunbar is the post-town. The village, being situated about two miles from Dunbar, and several parts of the parish being still nearer it, the inhabitants enjoy abundant and easy means of communication with other parts of the country, by the stage coaches which pass and repass through that town, every lawful day. And travelling will be still more facilitated in this county, if the railway, which is now in contemplation between Dunbar and Edinburgh, be proceeded with.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated close by the village, and in so far as the population may be supposed to be denser there than in any other part of the parish, (though it does not contain above a fourth of the inhabitants of the whole parish,) it may be said to be in as convenient a situation as could well have been chosen. It is at a great distance from the Lammernuir part of the parish, the farm of Bothwell being fully eight miles from it. But, with this exception, there is no place much farther off than four miles. The inhabitants of Bothwell are not numerous, and generally attend Divine ordinances in the church at Cranshaws, which is much nearer to them. The church at Spott is very old. The precise date of the building of it is not known. It was repaired in 1790, and though in a quite sufficient state, cannot be said to be very comfortable. It is seated for 350. The whole of the sittings are free. The manse was built in 1806; and, though comparatively new, has already undergone repeated repairs. The extent of the glebe is 6 Scotch acres, worth about L. 3 per acre. The stipend is 16 chalders, and L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.* The number of male heads of families on the roll of communicants is 71. The number of dissenting families is 16. Public worship is regularly and respectably attended.

Education.—Besides the parochial, there has been for a long time a subscription school, which, however, is at present without a

* The stipend in 1755 was L. 63, 17s. 2d.; in 1759, it was augmented to L. 1000 Scots; in 1798 it was L. 165, 0s. 8d.—*Chalmers' Caledonia and former Statistical Account.*

teacher. In both schools, all the ordinary branches are taught. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary or what is equivalent, and all the legal accommodations. The expense of education is in the parochial school, 2s. 6d. per quarter for English reading ; 4s. for writing ; and 5s. for arithmetic. It is not supposed that there is any one in the parish of a proper age who cannot read. All the young people learn to write ; nor, is it supposed that there are many, if there be any at all, of the older inhabitants, who cannot write. Of this a pleasing proof was afforded a few days ago, at the moderation in a Call to the gentleman who has been recently presented to the vacant charge of this parish, on which occasion upwards of 50 persons, male heads of families, in the rank of ordinary ploughmen, signed the call, in presence of the Presbytery, in a legible and respectable hand.

Libraries.—The only library in the parish is a branch of the East Lothian Itinerating Libraries.

Friendly Societies.—The only society of this nature is one to which there are several similar in the county,—the object of which is to assist a hind in replacing his cow, when she unfortunately dies. The members pay 8s. or 10s. annually. No member is permitted to kill his cow, even when rendered useless by accidental injury.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of persons who receive parochial aid, is from 12 to 16. The average allowance to each in ordinary circumstances, such as widows, and aged infirm persons, is 6s. per month. The poors' funds are from weekly collections at the church door, which amount to the average sum of L. 6, 6s. per annum ; from an assessment which averages L. 50 per annum ; and from the interest of L. 200 Sterling, and 400 merks Scotch, or L. 222 Sterling, originally mortified by Lord Alexander Hay of Spott, for behoof of the poor of the parish, which at present amounts only to L. 5 per annum.

Ale-houses.—There is but one ale-house now, and there was but one at the period of the last Statistical Account ; nor does it appear that they have ever been more numerous.

Fuel.—The fuel used in the lower district of the parish is coal, procured at Dunbar, to which place it is brought by sea from England and Fife, or at the coal-pits in the western part of the county. The former costs in general, from 7d. to 1s. per cwt., but it varies in price ; the latter costs just now at the pit 5d. per cwt.

Peat and dried turf constitute the principal fuel of the inhabitants of Lammermuir.

December 1836.

PARISH OF INNERWICK.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND Tweeddale.

THE REV. ADAM FORMAN, A. M. MINISTER.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name Innerwick (otherwise Ennerwick,) seems to be compounded of two Saxon words, denoting an inner hamlet—a description which exactly corresponds to the actual locality of the village of Innerwick. That village is situated somewhat inland, and at the distance of about a mile and a half from Thorntonloch, a hamlet in the same parish. These two villages, as lying, the one farther from the sea, and the other nearer to it, may be accurately characterized by the comparatives, inner and outer. Innerwick too, may be called inner, or farther from the sea, in reference either to a hamlet, now very inconsiderable, at the Skateraw shore, in the same parish, or to the neighbouring village of East Barns, in the parish of Dunbar. There is no need, therefore, of resorting to that mode of explaining the name, according to which it denotes a place at the mouth of a river or stream, a description which is strictly applicable neither to the castle, nor to the village of Innerwick, inasmuch as both are at some distance from the point where any stream that passes them joins the sea. To this derivation it might also be objected, that it seems somewhat unnatural for a village or castle to be named from its specific relation to a stream so small; and also, that the theory implies that the name Innerwick—as being formed of the Celtic word *Inver* in combination with the German word *Wic*—is heterogeneous in its composition.

Extent, Boundaries.—This parish is about ten miles in length, and from two to three in breadth. It is bounded on the north-

* This Report, with the exception of the articles *Geology* and *Botany*, which are written by the Rev. Andrew Baird of Cockburnspath, and the table of raw produce, compiled by the Minister of the parish, has been drawn up by the Rev. Alexander S. Patterson.

east by the German Ocean ; on the east, by the parish of Oldhamstocks ; on the south, by those of Cranshaws and Longformacus ; and on the west and north-west, by those of Spott and Dunbar.

Topographical Appearances.—The coast, which is about 2 miles in length, is rocky, but somewhat tame, being characterized neither by those rugged precipices which occur in the adjoining parish of Dunbar, nor by those still more elevated crags which, farther to the east, in the parishes of Cockburnspath and Coldingham, form such noble barriers to the sea. From the shore the land slopes gradually upwards towards the Lammermoors. The part of the parish which lies between that hilly boundary and the sea presents a scene of fertile and cultivated fields, but might be improved, in respect of picturesque beauty, by an addition of wood skillfully disposed over the now bare surface that intervenes between Thurston and Branxton, and stretches from the village of Innerwick downwards to the shore. The very want of objects to intercept the eye, however, contributes to give a peculiarly free and lively character to the view which that village commands of the neighbouring sea, while of this lower district, considered as a whole, the otherwise monotonous character is somewhat diversified and relieved by the plantations of Thurston and Branxton. Along the line where the northern and more fertile district of the parish passes into that hilly tract which constitutes its southern division, a good deal of picturesque scenery occurs. There may be little in that locality to satisfy the taste for nature in her more graceful or majestic forms—but the lover of simple and secluded beauty may there find wherewithal to be gratified, in the ravine with its wild and wooded sides, that stretch precipitously down to the rocky bed of its gurgling stream—the dell with its blooming banks—and the outstretching valley, from whose verdant slope the shepherd's hut looks peacefully down upon the traveller beneath. That part of the parish which, commencing at this hilly boundary, stretches southwards for about seven miles towards Berwickshire, is bleak and desolate—besprinkled, however, with cottages and farm-steadings ; affording both pasture for cattle, and, here and there, a soil capable of producing crops, and now under cultivation ; and occasionally enlivened by the verdure of the valley, and the freshness of the stream.

Hydrography —The inhabitants of this parish are copiously supplied with water, and much of what is used for domestic purposes is remarkable for its excellence. There is no large river

in the parish, but the two following streams may be noticed :—the Monynut, which, rising at the centre of the parish, proceeds southwards along the hilly ridge called Monynut Edge, and at length diverging towards the east, proceeds in a south-east course to Berwickshire, where it joins the Whitadder at Abbey St Bathans; and the Thornton water, ~~which~~, rising almost at the same point as the Monynut, flows through the parish from south to north, and, after being applied to the use of a grinding-mill about half a mile from its mouth, enters the sea beside the village of Thorntonloch.

Geology.—The geological structure of the parish of Innerwick appears on the whole to be simple, yet by no means destitute of interest; especially on the sea coast, and in several situations in the higher part of the district. The parish may be divided generally into two great portions, the high and the low: the one being composed almost entirely of a coarse conglomerate, which appears to belong to the old red sandstone formation, the latter constituting a portion of the coal formation. The first mentioned rock, viz. the conglomerate, forms, as we would perhaps expect, the most elevated portions of the parish, presenting in almost all of them the same general appearances, being composed almost entirely of fragments of greywacke and greywacke slate coarsely cemented together, and constituting in many places large and elevated mountain-masses. Frequently standing out from this conglomerate, we meet with thick strata of a coarse sandstone, and frequently also the conglomerate is traversed by projecting dikes or veins of trap. The part of the parish where these are most numerous, is in the neighbourhood of the farms of Aikengalls and Elmscleuch, where the geological appearances present themselves in a shape so curious and fantastic, as to have given rise to the popular idea, that the fairies once upon a time had here their dwelling-place; for the appearances now alluded to are generally known in the neighbourhood by the name of the “Fairies Castles.” The scenery may be thus described. The country is hilly, with many deep intersecting valleys, through each of which flows a stream scarcely perceptible in summer, but in winter forming a very considerable torrent. The beds of these little streams are wide, and formed of an immense and very deep deposit of channel, the debris of the mountain-tract through which they flow. In these valleys the old red sandstone, or rather the sandstone conglomerate before alluded to, is the prevailing rock. Jutting across these valleys, however, we oc-

casionally meet with thin and sometimes pretty lofty masses of trap-rock (generally a sort of claystone porphyry;) and so similar are the appearances to a regularly built wall with a quantity of coarsely cemented building on either side of it, that the term "castle" has been not unnaturally applied to them. This conglomerate may be traced in many other parts of the parish, occurring in great abundance on the farm of Woodhall. We have not been able to discover with any exactness where the old red sandstone ceases, and the rocks of the coal formation begin. It seems to be, however, a little north of the village of Innerwick, in a direction from east to west—the change of formation being probably a very gradual one; that is, the one set of rocks probably passes into the other, without any visible junction or marked difference of external characters. At the little hamlet of Thornton, and at Innerwick Castle, the rocks appear to be those of the coal formation, and from this latter place, they seem to continue in a straight line westward to the several farms named Pinkerton, in the parish of Dunbar. The lower portion of the parish, viz. the district between the localities last mentioned, Thornton, Innerwick, &c., and the sea, being covered with a deep and fertile soil, we have scarcely any opportunity of observing in it either the characters of the fundamental rocks, or the order and manner in which the different strata present themselves. These can be observed only on the sea-coast with anything like regularity or satisfaction, and our remaining observations, therefore, shall be restricted to a very general description and examination of it. The sea-coast of this parish commences a little eastward from Thorntonloch, where a little stream, which flows into the sea, separates it from the adjoining parish of Oldhamstocks. The shores of this latter parish are a continuation of those of Cockburnspath*—the exact designation and era of the rocks composing which have been much disputed by geologists. Latterly, however, it seems to be agreed that they are to be considered a very old portion of the coal formation—an opinion which, as we travel westward to the shores of Innerwick, gradually receives stronger confirmation, that is to say, while, in the parish of Cockburnspath, we have only sandstone, indurated marl, and a coarse kind of slate clay or shale, we find, as we advance westward, the other and undoubted members of the coal formation gradually displaying themselves. These additional rocks are, limestone, clay, ironstone, bituminous shale, and, occasionally cropping out about high-water mark, thin seams of the coal itself,

* Vide Statistical Account of that parish.

the characterizing rock of the formation. The organic remains also, especially the vegetable impressions in the sandstone, are exactly those which occur in undoubted districts, in other parts of the country, composed of the coal formation. Such then, are the rocks at Thorntonloch—there, indeed, only partially visible, owing to the sands which cover them, but again emerging to view a little farther westward, where, at a slight angle towards west north-west, they pass under the magnesian limestone, which here is not in any great abundance, and which in its turn is covered a few yards westward by pretty thick beds of the encrinite, or mountain limestone of English geologists. At the point where this change takes place, the strata of the sandstone, shale, &c. are a good deal jumbled and confused, and the dip or inclination of the limestone strata becomes suddenly much greater. The magnesian limestone in the situation now described has the usual characters of that rock in other situations; but the first, or rather uppermost bed of the mountain limestone which rests upon it, presents a more interesting appearance, viz. a pretty thick stratum or reef, if we may so call it, of extinct corals. The particular species we have not been able exactly to ascertain. The genus, however, is clearly *Caryophyllea*. The original forms are preserved with much freshness and accuracy, and afford a subject of inquiry and speculation deeply interesting and curious. Other organic remains and impressions might be noticed as occurring in this mountain limestone; but it is time that these observations were brought to a close. Continuing, therefore, our observations still westward from the situation now described, the mountain limestone, in numerous and successive strata, may be said to form the rest of the shore of this parish, being burned to a very considerable extent in the farm of Skateraw; from which place a large portion of the agricultural district adjoining both in Berwickshire and East Lothian, is supplied with it. Attempts have been made on the property of Mr Hay at East Barns, on the confines of this parish, to discover coal. The parties interested were sanguine in their expectations, but they have lately, and probably wisely, abandoned their exertions.

Botany.—The botany of this parish may be considered as a good deal similar to that of Cockburnspath, which has been pretty fully described in the account of that parish. There are some striking plants, and here and there rather an interesting botanic station. But we have observed no plants which are not enumerated in the account of the above parish.

Trees.—The planting of wood has been carried on to a considerable extent on the estate of Thurston, by the present proprietor, and also by his father. The grounds immediately around the mansion-house comprehend a variety of the hard woods. Some of the trees are upwards of a hundred years old. In the year 1788, a part, amounting to 160 imperial acres, of what formerly constituted Innerwick common, was planted with fir by the late Mr Hunter of Thurston. The wood thus planted has made very different degrees of progress, and some of it, so lately as last year (1835,) appeared, though still alive, not to have advanced at all. On the whole, however, this somewhat bold effort of planting has succeeded, and Thurston High Wood, as this piece of scenery is called, forms a fine variety among the neighbouring hills. On farms belonging to the estate of Thurston, a few small plantations have been formed. At a place, in the western part of the parish, called by the various names, or varieties of the same name, *Woodley*, *Woodyley*, *Waldalee*, and *Weatherly*, the banks of a ravine are clothed with what appears to be natural wood, the wild beauty of which breaks finely in on the surrounding scenery. Much of the wood is oak, and the whole covers seventy acres. At the opposite extremity of the parish, the property of Branxton, which is planted to the extent of thirty-six acres, exhibits trees of considerable age and growth; and wood, but in small quantity, forms one of the objects in that scene of simple beauty where the Castle of Innerwick mingles its grey ruins with the fresher elements of nature. The names *Braidwood*, *Woodhall*, *Woodley*, and perhaps also, *Aikengall*, *Elmscleuch*, *Birkiemuir*, and *Monynut*, afford reason for supposing that the places in the parish which they respectively denote were formerly wooded, as, indeed, Woodley still is.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—Under this head, a few details may be given respecting the state of property in the parish in ancient times. From David I. Walter Stewart received the manor of Innerwick. The grant was confirmed in 1157 by Malcolm IV.; and the superiority of the Stewarts over Innerwick continued till the time of Charles II. Ranulph de Kent, one of Walter's vassals, obtained from him a right to a merk of silver annually from his mill of Innerwick; and in the thirteenth century, a family called Glay—also, it is probable, attached to the Stewarts by the law of vassalage,—held part of the estate. In the time of David II., Isabel, daughter of Roger de Glay, by her marriage with John de Hambleton, second

son of Sir Walter Hambleton of that Ilk, introduced the inheritance into a family from whom, by this connection, sprang the Hamiltons of Innerwick, ancestors of the Earl of Haddington. In the thirteenth century, by a grant from Stewart, a person of the name of Lindsay became possessed of Thurston. Walter de Lindsay of Thurstoun was appointed a nominee by Robert Bruce, on occasion of the competition for the crown; and next year, his manor was visited by Edward I.—in the words of Rymer, “*Capella manerii domini Walteri de Lindsay, in quo tunc dictus dominus, rex hospitabatur.*”^{*} At the accession of Robert II., John de Lindsay gave the lands of Thurston to John Wallays; but whether the locality now called *Wallace-mill* derives its name from this family, from the renowned Sir William Wallace, or from neither of these sources, is uncertain. In the time of Regent Morton, Thurston belonged to a person called in Godscroft’s *History of the Houses of Angus and Douglas, Craigiwallace*, a descendant, perhaps of the John Wallace now mentioned. In that work, too, the following story relative to Thurston is related: George Hume of Spott, displeased with Alexander Hume of Manderston, to whose son he had promised to give a daughter of his own in marriage, disposed of her and also of his estate to a son of the Regent. The lands of Thurston lay near to those of Spott. The former, although the property of Craigiwallace, were possessed by George Hume of Wedderburn, whose predecessors have been supposed to have held them for eight or nine generations, the tenure being lease and good-will. Wedderburn, giving possession to Craigiwallace of the lands of Dundonald, himself retained those of Thurston. But the latter, having got the Dundonald property confirmed to him as his own by the King’s agents on royal lands, sought to dispossess him. Wedderburn, however, still kept possession. The Regent, hearing of the circumstances, and influenced by the vicinity of Thurston to Spott, offered to buy from Craigiwallace his right to the former. He also inquired of Wedderburn, however, what *he* would have for his right to the disputed estate. Wedderburn replied, that he desired nothing but his own, and that only that could satisfy him. The Regent intimated that he had bought the estate. “No one but yourself,” said Wedderburn, “would have done so, nor would you had you not been Regent.” A decret of removal was obtained against him, and he, on *his* part, set about building on the

^{*} At Thurston, too, in July 1292, William de Douglas swore fealty to the English King.

lands, to show that he was not about to remove. At length matters were arranged by the mediation of William Douglas of Lochleven. Wedderburn got half of the lands, including the manor-house, with full right of property; to the other half he resigned his claim. Without tracing the changes in the possession of Thurston and the other properties of the parish downwards to the present day, we may mention that the name of Wedderburn, so prominent in this little scrap of local history, subsequently became connected with the baronies of Thornton and Innerwick. In 1670 or 1671, Sir Peter Wedderburn of Gosford obtained a grant of the former, and about the same time he came into possession of the latter.

Heritors.—The present heritors of the parish are, Mrs Ferguson of Dirleton and Biel; Mr Hunter of Thurston; Mr Balfour of Whittingham; the Marquis of Tweeddale; Sir George Suttie of Balgone; Sir John Hall of Dunglass; and Mr Allan of Bushelhill.

Parochial Registers.—These commence with 1608, and consist of several volumes. They seem to have been generally kept with care and precision. Of ecclesiastical discipline and superintendence in the seventeenth and earlier part of the succeeding century, the record is copious and minute. The following circumstances amidst a multitude of others are recorded:—That in September 1659, a Sunday-fast was appointed by the session, in reference to the anticipated destruction of the corn-crops by incessant rain, and an apparent want of piety among the people; that in May 1661, a day of thanksgiving was appointed for the King's return, the minister, however, cautioning the congregation against observing it as a sacred festival or anniversary holyday, and, in that respect, on a level with the Sabbath; that in October 1662, the minister, not conforming to Episcopacy, took leave of his people, the two parting from each other (as the record expresses it,) like mother and child, when the latter is snatched from her breast; and that in the seventeenth century, church collections were made at Innerwick for a harbour at North Berwick, bridges at Linton and Whitekirk, and persons taken prisoners by the Turks.

Antiquities.—Innerwick Castle, of which there are still considerable remains, was probably built in feudal times, as a security to the Scottish border. It was an inheritance of the Stewarts who, for so long a period, held a superiority over the neighbouring lands, but at length became a baronial stronghold of the Hamiltons of Innerwick. In 1403, in which year the Earl of Dunbar

led the Northumbrians as far as Innerwick, the castle, in which Chalmers conjectures that an English garrison was left on the occasion, was taken and laid prostrate by the Regent Albany. Along with Thornton Castle, a house of Lord Home's, which stood on the opposite bank of a little glen, Innerwick Castle was attacked by Protector Somerset, when he invaded Scotland.* Of these two fortresses, the former has almost entirely disappeared; of the latter there are still some remains. They stand at the distance of about half a mile from the village of Innerwick, a little to the north of the road between it and Oldhamstocks. "Decay's effacing fingers," however, have been at work on the venerable pile, and, in the course of the last few years, its ruins have become still more ruinous. A view of Innerwick Castle is given in Grose's Antiquities. It has also afforded a subject to the pencil of Mr Thomson of Duddingston.

On Blackcastle-hill, the name of which indicates it to have been the site of a structure that has now passed away, there are some remains of an old encampment.

* Of this attack the following account is given by Patten, who accurately describes the two fortalices as "set both on a craggy foundation, and devided a stone's cast asunder by a depe gut, wherein ran a little ryver:"—"Thornton belonged to the Lord Hume, and was kepte then by one Tom Trotter; whereunto my Lorde's grace over night for summons, sente Somerset, his heraulde, towards whome IIII. or V. of this capitaynes prikkers, with their gaddes ready charged, did right hastely direct their course; but Trotter both honestly defended the heraulde, and sharply rebuked hys men, and said, for the summons he would come speake with my lorde's grace himself,—notwithstanding he came not, but straight lockt up sixteen poor soules, like the souldiers of Dunglas fast within the house, toke the keys with him, and commanding them they should defend the house, and tarry within (as they coulede not get out) till his returne, whiche should be on the morrow, with much municion and relief, he with his prikkers prikt quite his ways. Anderwyke pertained to the Lorde of Hambledon, and was kept by hys sonne and heyre, (whom of custume they call the master of Hambledon) and an VIII. more with hym, gentlemen for the moste part as we harde say. My Lorde's grace at his comming nye, sent unto both these piles, whiche upon summons refusing to surrender, were straight assayled, Thornton by batrie of IIII. of our great peces of ordinaunce, and certain of Syr Peter Mewtus hakbutteres to watch the loopholes and wyndows on all sydes, and Anderwyke by a sorte of the same hakbutteres alone, who soo well besturd them, yt whear these kepers had ramed up their outer dores, cloyd and stopt up their stayres within, and kept themselves aloft for defence of their house, above the battilmentes, the hakbutteres gat in and fyred them underneth; whereby beying greatly trobled with smoke and smoother, and brought in desperation of defence, they called pitifully over their walls to my Lorde's grace for mercy, who notwithstandinge their great obstinacie, and the xsample other of ye enemies mought have had by their punishment, of his noble generositie, and by these wordes making half xcuse for them, Men may some tyme do yt hastely in a gere, whereof afterwards they mai soon repent them, did take them to grace, and thearfore sent one straight to them. But ere the messenger came, the hakbutteres had gooten up to them, and killed VIII. of them aloft; one leapt over the walles, and running more than a furlong, after was slain without in a water." Similar were the proceedings at the neighbouring Castle of Thornton. Of that fortalice a great part was demolished on the occasion. "The rest," adds Patten, "stood all to be shaken with riftes and chykkes." Of that stronghold, accordingly, the very ruins have now almost utterly disappeared.

A little to the south of Innerwick Castle, on the right of the Old-hamstocks road, slight remains are still visible of a structure, removed some years ago, called *Edinkens Bridge*—a name which has been traced, by conjecture or tradition, to Edwin, King of Northumbria. In a mortification, issued at the beginning of the eighteenth century, by William Nisbet of Dirleton, as recorded in the kirk-session books, this edifice is called *the Bridge of Edincain*—a name which almost exactly coincides with the present one of *Edinkens Bridge*. In the course of the succeeding century, however, it is called, in the parochial registers, *King Edward's Bridge*; and in the former Statistical Report of the parish, it bears the name of *Edirken's*, which is there traced to that, not of *Edwin*, but of *Edward*. Near this bridge there stood, some years ago, four large stones, such as might be supposed to indicate the burial-place of some distinguished person. These were removed a considerable time ago; but last year (1835) the place where they stood was identified, and a subterranean examination instituted at the spot. Besides a few small stones, which were found at the depth of four feet—not enclosed, however, in any kind of coffin—a large urn was discovered, surrounded with black ashes, and containing a quantity of bones very white, and apparently burned. Among these was a small under-jaw, as if of a female, or young person. The urn, when found, was inverted, and its situation was quite shallow. From these details it might be rash to deduce any decided historical results. But if some distinguished individual named Edwin was here interred, it is probable either that the conjecture of a gentleman who took an active part in the investigation is true, that the person in question was a Northumbrian prince, who was slain in the eleventh century, when flying from William the Conqueror to the residence of Malcolm IV., (and not the King from whom the city of Edinburgh derives its name, who is recorded to have died at an entirely different place,) or that the name of *Edinkens* originated in the individual from whom Edinshold, on the hill of Cockburnlaw, among the neighbouring Lammermoors, is called—supposing that individual, (who is represented with something of the character of a freebooter,) to have been identical with neither of the Northumbrian princes already mentioned.

Chalmers speaks of two beautiful tumuli, apparently sepulchres, as existing in the parish of Innerwick; but what mounds he means, by the description, is uncertain. The failure to discover to what

the learned author refers, may be accounted for by the effect of agriculture in levelling the soil. Several stone coffins have been met with in the parish. Two of these, inclosing a ring and part of a sword, were found, some years ago, on the farm of Skateraw. There has been preserved a pretty little vase, found on another of the farms. Some of the sepulchral relics, which have been found in such abundance in the parish of Innerwick are probably the remains of bloody warfare. A field near the village of Innerwick, known by the name of *the Corsikill Park*, is pointed out as the scene of an encounter between Cospatrick and Sir William Wallace.*

There stood, at one time, on the Skateraw shore a chapel, dedicated to St Denny's. Remains of such an edifice were visible some years ago, but have now yielded to the sea. Bones, found in the vicinity of the spot, give reason for supposing that a burying-ground was connected with the chapel. An old and time-worn parish church was taken down about fifty years ago.

III.—POPULATION.

The records of baptism seem to indicate that, in the 17th and earlier part of the 18th century, the parish of Innerwick was somewhat more populous than it is at present. The following is a list of the population, at several successive periods, as given in the Government census, and other authoritative documents :—

Population in 1755,	.	941
1791,	.	960
1801	.	846
1821,	.	924
1831,	.	987

At present the population may be reckoned somewhat fewer than the last of these numbers.

* In Henry the Minstrel's poem of *Wallace*, there occurs the following passage :

“ Thus raid thai furth, and wuld na langer duell
 Be est to Dunbar, quhar men him tald on cass
 How erll Patrick was waryt off Wallace :
 Ner Ennerwick chesyt a feild at waill,
 With nyne hundreth off likly men to waill.
 Four hundreth was with Wallace in the rycht,
 And sone onon approchit to thair sicht.
 Gret sawte thar was of gude trety betweyn,
 To mak concord, and that full sone was seyn.
 Without maters off actioun in that tid,
 On other part to gydder fast thai rid.
 The stour was strang, and wonder peralous,
 Contenynt lang with dedes chivalrous ;
 Mony thar deit off cruell Scottis blud.
 Off this trety the mater is nocht gud ;
 Tharfor I uss to tell the destructioun ;
 Pete it was, and all off a natioun.
 Bot erll Patrick the feild left at the last,
 Rycht few with him : to Coburnspeth thei past.”

The parishioners of Innerwick are chiefly engaged in agriculture. They, in general, possess a considerable share of the comforts and conveniences of life. They are, on the whole, industrious in their habits, and decent in their outward conduct.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The lower part of the parish, consisting of between 3000 and 4000 imperial acres, is laid out in corn, pasture, and wood; and although in the hill-lands, which consist of about two-thirds of the parish, stock-farming is chiefly practised, even there several hundred acres are under cultivation. The following may be taken as a pretty accurate view of the distribution of the land:—

Number of Scots acres in the parish,	.	9900
under tillage,	.	4000
in natural pasture,	.	5000
under wood,	.	300

There are fifteen farms in the parish, which differ widely in extent and value.

Rent of Land.—Towards the end of the eighteenth century, the rental of this parish was L. 4000. It rose to L. 15,000, but is now reduced to about L. 9500. The rent of land varies greatly, according to its quality. Here, as elsewhere, farms have now begun to be let by the fiars.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of wages for day-labourers is, for men, 1s. 6d., for women, 10d., a-day. The provision afforded to hinds consists of barley, oats, peas, cow's grass, potatoes, coals, and lint-money, and amounts in value to about L. 25 per annum. Eighteen or twenty days' shearing serves as their house rent.

Live Stock.—About 5000 sheep are kept on the hill-district of the parish. These are Cheviots, black-faced, and a breed between the two. Those pastured in the lower district are chiefly of the Leicester breed; and, after being bought in in autumn, are kept for a year, and then sold off. Some, however, are fed for a shorter time, at the charge of so much per head. Few black-cattle are now bred in the parish. Some, however, are bought in and fattened on turnips, and then sold off.

Husbandry.—The arable soil of this parish is partly light and partly a heavy clay. To the latter, a six-shift rotation of crops is applied; to the former, a five-shift course. The six-shift is the following:—1. fallow, with manure—in some cases, turnip; 2.

wheat; 3. grass; next, oats; then, beans; and lastly, wheat. The five-shift is as follows:—1. turnip; 2. spring-wheat, or barley; 3. grass, for two successive years; and, finally, oats. Turnips are pretty extensively grown. These are consumed partly in the fields by sheep, and partly in the farm-yard by larger cattle. Messrs J. T. and W. Lee, late tenants in this parish, were three of the first farmers in the county by whom turnips were grown to any considerable extent. Drilling is generally practised, nor is it confined to wheat and turnip crops. Farms adjoining the sea have the benefit of sea-ware, which is to be found on the shore in great abundance. Lime and bone-dust are also used in this parish as manure. Wheat is sown from October to March; barley from March to May; oats in March; and turnip at the end of May. Thirlage is in use to some extent.

Most of the farm-houses in the lower part of the parish are excellent. Stone fences, as well as hedges, are usual. The former are preferred by the tenant, and are increasing. There is a steam thrashing-mill on the farm of Thurston; on that of Crawhill considerable labour and expense were devoted, some years ago, to the erection of a water-mill. The stream from which the water is supplied, flows, through a little valley, considerably below the level of the steading. A mine was forced through the solid rock to the extent of thirty-six yards, and a pit sunk at the end of it to the depth of forty feet. In this the wheel was placed. A dam-head was erected among the rocks of the valley. The expense incurred was about L. 800. There is one flour and meal mill in the parish.

The duration of farm leases is generally either nineteen or twenty-one years.

Quarries.—There are indications of coal having been formerly wrought in this parish, but that branch of labour is not now in use. At the Skateraw shore limestone is regularly wrought and burned. Much of the stone, however, that might otherwise be turned to good account is rendered difficult to work by the depth of the incumbent soil. The lime prepared here is of excellent quality. In the time of war, limestone in considerable quantity was sent from Skateraw to the Devon iron-works. Now, however, it is almost always burned before the material is dispatched. A large portion of the lime goes to Berwickshire. Freestone is wrought in the parish, when needed for local purposes.

Fishery.—Two boats belonging to this parish are employed in

the adjoining sea in catching haddock, mackerel, lobsters, and other fish.

Raw Produce.—

620 acres wheat, 4 quarters per acre, 2480 quarters at L. 2, 8s. per quarter,	L. 5952	0	0
1000 oats, 6½ quarters per acre, 6500 quarters at 24s. per quarter.	7800	0	0
270 barley, 6 quarters per acre, 1620 quarters at 30s. per quarter,	2430	0	0
200 pease and beans, 4 quarters per acre, 800 quarters at 34s. per quarter,	1360	0	0
780 turnip, at L. 6, 10s. per acre,	5070	0	0
60 potatoes, 40 bolls per acre, 2400 bolls, at 7s. per boll,	840	0	0
1060 sown grass at L. 4, 4s. per acre,	4452	0	0
5004 natural pasture, at 4s. per acre,	1000	0	0
Wood,	150	0	0
Lime, 19,000 bolls annually, at 1s. 7d. per boll,	1504	3	4
	<hr/>		
	L. 30,558	3	4

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—The market-towns resorted to are chiefly Dunbar, Haddington, and Dunse. From the village of Innerwick, the first of these is four miles distant; the others are more than thrice as far.

Villages.—The villages of the parish are Innerwick and Thorntonloch. The former is situated at the distance of about a mile from the London road. It lies at the foot of a steep but cultivated hill. It is tolerably neat and clean, but in its appearance somewhat straggling and irregular. Thorntonloch lies on the coast, almost close to the London road. It is occupied to a considerable extent, though not exclusively, by the servants of the adjoining farm. Many of its cottages are very bad.

Means of Communication.—About two miles of the great road between Edinburgh and London are in this parish. The Mail, the Union, and a Berwick coach, which all run daily on that road, afford expeditious and convenient means of travelling. The other roads in the lower district of the parish are kept in good repair, and afford great facilities for the conveyance of produce to market. There is no post-office in the parish, but by letter-carriers and other means of communication a tolerably regular conveyance of letters is secured from the post-town of Dunbar. A carrier passes through the parish, by the London road, once a week on his way to Edinburgh, and once a week on his return. A small harbour at the Skateraw shore, erected some years ago by the late Messrs Brodie of Thorntonloch, and Lee of Skateraw, is used for the exportation of lime, and the importation of coal.

Ecclesiastical State.—Walter Stewart, to whom, as has been already stated, was granted by David I. the manor of Innerwick,

presented the church, with certain pertinents, to the monks of Paisley. This grant was confirmed by Malcolm IV. and, in the twelfth century, the Episcopal authority of St Andrews declared in favour of the monks holding possession of the church, and assigned to the vicar a garden near the burying-ground, and some other land. The monks retained the church of Innerwick until the Reformation. In 1670, Sir Peter Wedderburn obtained a grant of the rectory and vicarage tithes. The present patron is Mrs Ferguson of Dirleton.

The church, which was built in 1784, is a very plain structure. It stands on an elevation in the village of Innerwick, and is conveniently situated for the lower part of the parish; but most of the families who reside in the hill-district are at a distance of from five to eight miles from their parish-church. To the greater part of these, however, the church of Cranshaws, or that of Abbey St Bathan's, is much nearer. In the church of Innerwick, as in those of other country parishes, the seats are distributed among the farms. A few sittings, however, have been let at a small specified sum. The attendance, as compared with that of many parishes, is good, but even in this respect there is room for improvement. By far the greater number of families in the parish belong to the Established Church. About 120 persons, however, including children, are Dissenters, chiefly of the United Secession. Five elders are associated with the minister in the care of the parish.

In an ancient Taxatio the church of Innerwick is valued so low as thirty merks. The present stipend is 16 chalders, half barley, and half oats; exclusive of L. 10 for communion elements. The last augmentation occurred about twelve years ago. The teinds are not by any means exhausted. The manse was enlarged and repaired a few years ago, and is now a handsome and commodious house. The glebe consists of five acres of arable land, and is let at L. 3 per acre. There is no grass glebe.

Education.—There are two week-day schools in the parish, both of which are in the village of Innerwick, viz. the parish school, and a private school for girls under the charge of a female teacher. The attendance at these varies according to the season of the year. In winter there are, at the two together, about 120 scholars. Some children belonging to the parish go elsewhere to school. The fees in both schools are moderate. There is a pervading disposition among parents to give their children a common education; and most of them are in circumstances

which enable them to do so. Destitute children are kept at school by the heritors and kirk-session. There are two Sabbath schools in the parish, which are taught, the one by the minister, and the other by two of the elders. A mortification by Hector Foord of Branxton provides for six college bursaries—a preference to be given, failing his own relations and persons of his own name, to individuals born or educated in the parishes of Innerwick or Dunbar.

Libraries.—A parish library has existed here for several years. There are also two small itinerating libraries,—the one stationed at Innerwick, the other at Thorntonloch. Those who avail themselves of these means of improvement are fewer than might be wished.

Poor.—At present 18 persons derive regular assistance from the poor funds. *Occasional* aid is also granted. These supplies are given from the interest of L. 1000 laid out on security, together with the church collections. As to the source from which the principal sum was obtained there is some uncertainty. It appears, however, from the session books, that, according to an Act of the reign of James VII., the stipend of crops 1698 and 1699 was mortified by William Nisbet of Dirleton for the repair of the bridge of Edencain, and the assistance of the poor of Innerwick—the annualrent of the balance, laid out on security, to be devoted to the latter object.

Fuel.—Peat and coal are both used as fuel. Coals are brought from Fife and Bo-ness to the harbour of Skateraw. A few months ago a ton cost about 12s. There has lately been a considerable advance of price.

Alehouses.—Of these there are 2 in this parish; the one in the village of Innerwick—the other at Thorntonloch bridge, on the London road.

1836.

PARISH OF ABERLADY.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN SMITH, MINISTER.

L—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—It can hardly be doubted, that the parish of Aberlady takes its name from the village. The word, however, is of uncertain etymology. From the well understood meaning of the prefix *Aber*, it has been conjectured that the stream now called the *Peffer* was in ancient times styled the *Leddie*, and that Aberlady is the village which stands at the mouth of the Leddie or Peffer, or its influx into the Frith of Forth. Such at all events is its situation.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish is about 3 miles long by about 2½ broad, with an irregular boundary-line. It contains an area of between 6 and 7 square miles, or about 4000 imperial acres, almost the whole of which are arable, and have been cultivated. It is bounded on the north and north-west by the sea; on the north-east by the parish of Dirleton; on the south and south-east by that of Haddington; and on the south-west by that of Glads-muir.

Topographical Appearances.—The greater portion of the parish is flat, rising very slowly from the level of the sea, and no part of it reaches any considerable elevation. But though without variety of hill and dale, it has a pleasing aspect, and the views from almost every part of it towards the north and west are singularly beautiful. It is not easy, indeed, to imagine a prospect more splendid and varied than that which comprehends the Frith of Forth in its widest expansion, and ever enlivened with sails, the Pentland hills, Arthur's Seat, Edinburgh with its spires, monuments and castle, Inchkeith, the Lomond hills, and the peaks of the Grampian mountains towering in the distance. These and many other interesting objects, all happily combined, present a picture to the eye universally and justly admired.

Hydrography.—There is very little running water within the

parish, and the inhabitants are supplied chiefly from wells. The supply thence derived, however, is abundant, and the quality wholesome. A brook or *burn*, indeed, rises in the higher grounds, and running in a north-west direction, nearly through the centre of the parish, falls into Gosford bay, but it is at no time considerable, and is dry, or nearly so, every summer. Another small stream forms the south-west boundary of the parish, and pursues a similar course, but its channel is also empty during the summer's drought. The principal stream, though still very inconsiderable, connected with the parish is the Peffer, which after a sluggish course of about five miles over a bed of clay, enters Aberlady bay from the east, at Luffness point. It is distinguishable, however, at low water about a mile further west, and near this point is the harbour or rather anchorage ground of Aberlady. At spring-tides vessels of sixty or seventy tons burden can ascend the bed of the Peffer thus far, and lie tolerably secure; but they cannot easily get out to sea again when the wind is westerly. This harbour or anchorage ground is, in virtue of a royal grant, confirmed by the Scottish Parliament in 1633, the *Port* of Haddington; but the grant is unproductive, as the trade is trifling. Throughout the whole of this parish, the coast is low, and the tide retires from it in some points to a great distance. Still, however, the water seems to be gaining, though very slowly, on the land, partly, perhaps, from the operation of general causes, and partly from the habit of quarrying and carting away the natural bulwarks against the encroachments of the sea.

Geology and Mineralogy.—It is not supposed that, with the exception of some rocks a little to the west of the anchorage-ground already spoken of, any part of this parish has attracted much attention from the geological inquirer, nor is it believed that it will yield on the whole any considerable harvest to the cultivators of that important and interesting science. Everywhere along the shore, there are manifest proofs that the sea stood at a higher level at some remote era than it does now, or has done within the period of historical record; and it is not to be questioned that much of that which is now well cultivated and productive land was once swampy and worthless. The soil of the parish is of various quality. Near the sea it is light and sandy; the sand having been evidently blown from the beach, and in some places covering, to the depth of a foot or more, land bearing indubitable traces of former cultivation. A little further inland, there is a considerable breadth

of clay soil, not naturally fertile ; and it is only when the land begins to rise with a gentle elevation to the south that the soil is generally good. Here, however, it is of excellent quality ; and, being well suited to the production of every kind of crop, amply repays the labour of the farmer. There is neither freestone nor limestone quarry in the parish. Lime rock, however, exists in abundance, but as lime may be had more conveniently in the immediate neighbourhood, it is not burnt. It is not doubted that some seams of coal, in connection with the great coal-field of Mid-Lothian, run through the parish, but no attempt has ever been made to work them, nor is it believed that any such attempt could be made with advantage. A good deal of whinstone is quarried along the shore for the use of the roads in the neighbourhood, and it is reckoned very well suited to the purpose.

Botany.—It is not believed that any plants deserving the appellation of rare are now to be found in the parish. Those which are not frequently observed in other districts are still common in the neighbourhood. There are no woods of natural growth in the parish ; and though extensive plantations have been made within the last fifty years, for ornament and shelter, there is in this respect still room for improvement. Near the sea, trees seldom grow luxuriantly, partly, it is probable, from the sandy nature of the soil in which they have been planted, partly from the force of the winds, to which they are in a peculiar degree exposed, and partly from the saline particles with which these winds are impregnated. A very little way inland, however, trees of every species commonly planted, seem to thrive at least moderately well, and there are many trees and shrubs in the parish of much luxuriance and beauty.

Zoology.—There are no wild animals peculiar to the parish, and it is not remarkable for “ breeding any species of cattle of distinguished quality, size, or value.” It abounds in hares, pheasants, and partridges ; and rabbits and wood-pigeons are so numerous as to be in no small degree injurious. Lapwings and curlews visit us in considerable numbers in autumn ; and during the winter months, the bay is frequented by large flocks of wild geese, by different sorts of plovers, and by many varieties of the duck tribe. It abounds also in cockles, mussels, and in some of the smaller sorts of shell-fish ; but, in an economical point of view, they are of little value, and mussels, at least, are much less plentiful than formerly.

Climate.—The climate of this parish is dry and salubrious. The

winters are singularly mild, and, in sheltered situations, many of the tenderer shrubs succeed remarkably well. The east wind in spring is keen and piercing, but less so than in some of the neighbouring parishes; the weather in autumn is generally clear and bracing; and, on the whole, the climate may be considered as more than commonly conducive to health and enjoyment. Ague, which was formerly prevalent, is now unknown; and the inhabitants seem to be altogether exempted from peculiar disease.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Aberlady does not appear to have been ever the scene of any very memorable event, nor is it famous in history as the birth-place, or place of residence, of any very eminent man. After passing under different arrangements, through the hands of various families, more or less distinguished, it is now divided into three estates, the proprietors of which, in the order of their valued rent, are, Lord Elibank; the Earl of Wemyss and March; and the Honourable Sir Alexander Hope. They have all seats in the parish; but the two last named only reside in them.

Ballencrieff, the seat of Lord Elibank, occupies a fine and commanding situation, is surrounded by some stately trees, and enjoys a most extensive prospect.—*Gosford*, the seat of the Earl of Wemyss and March, has had vast sums expended on it, since it came into the possession of that noble and very ancient family, and from the amenity of the situation, and beauty of the grounds, may justly be considered as a very pleasing residence. The house is distinguished amongst the mansions of the Scottish nobility, by a very large collection of pictures; most of them by the ancient masters, and many of them of the highest merit.—*Luffness*, the seat of Sir Alexander Hope, has been much improved and adorned, by the taste of the present proprietor, and has an air of antiquity about it, from which it derives no small degree of interest.

Antiquities.—There are few remains of antiquity in the parish. The fortalice of *Kilspindy*, which stood between the village and the shore, and which at the date of the former Statistical Account, was in no very ruinous state, has been swept entirely away. It was built in 1585, by Patrick Douglas, grandson of Sir Archibald Douglas of Kilspindy, a man of no small note in his time. He was Treasurer of Scotland in the minority of James V., and much confided in by his nephew, the Earl of Angus, substantially Regent of the kingdom. Subsequently, however, he shared in the forfeiture of the “*Douglasses*,” and died in exile.—*Redhouse*, or *Redhouse Castle* stands on the margin of the small stream which separates

the parish from Gladsmuir, and, though now utterly in ruins, seems to have been a mansion of considerable extent. The date of its erection is not exactly known, but it was probably built towards the close of the sixteenth century, or perhaps at a still earlier period. The situation is imposing; and it has attached to it an extensive garden with an excellent exposure, and well stocked with fruit trees, still productive. The lands of Redhouse were held in the fifteenth century by the "Laings," one of which family was Treasurer of Scotland in 1465, Bishop of Glasgow in 1473, and High Chancellor in 1483. From this family, the estate came by marriage into the hands of Sir Andrew Hamilton, brother of the first Earl of Haddington, and with that gentleman's heirs, it continued till the last of them lost both lands and life, for having engaged in the Rebellion of 1745. The house of *Luffness* is partly of very ancient date. It stands within a small fortification, constructed by the French General "De Thermes," in 1549, in order to straiten the English garrison in Haddington, by preventing it from receiving supplies by sea; and the ditch and rampart are still most distinctly visible. It appears to have answered its intended purpose, as the garrison in question, being reduced to great extremity for want of provisions, was soon after withdrawn. In 1551, this fort was ordered to be destroyed; but the house was allowed to remain as private property. A few hundred yards west of Luffness may be observed the remains of a small religious edifice, said to have been a convent of Carmelites or White Friars, to whom David II. granted a charter of confirmation as a mark of his favour; and near it, there are evident traces of fish-ponds, which a little trouble would restore. An hospital is said to have been founded at Ballencrieff, in the twelfth century, and dedicated to St Cuthbert; and there was another at Gosford *Spital*, in connection with the collegiate church of Dunclas, but at neither place are there now any remains of ancient buildings. Along the coast, westward towards Longniddry, stone coffins and human bones have been very frequently dug up, and there seems to be little doubt, that, at some very remote period, this has been the scene of fierce and bloody contention.

Parochial Registers.—The records of this parish go back two hundred years, but, as happens very commonly throughout Scotland, they do not appear to have been at any time very exactly kept; nor would it be safe to build on them any conclusions in statistic science.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population is said to have amounted to	799	
1791,	800	
1801,	875	
1811,	912	
1821,	1033	
1831,	973	
Number of families in the parish,		231
chiefly employed in agriculture,		112
in trades, manufacture, or handicraft,		38

From the above statement, it appears that the population of the parish has not been subject for a long period to any remarkable fluctuations; and that it is considerably larger now than it was eighty years ago. It is doubted, however, whether the increase stated in the returns be not rather seeming than real, and whether the apparent addition to the population in this and in many other rural parishes be not mainly owing to the greater accuracy with which the late enumerations have been made. This accuracy, it is natural to suppose, has gone on increasing; and it is conceived that, from negligence and other causes, the early accounts of the population of many parishes are much beneath the real amount. At one period, it is well known, the people had in general no small dislike to be numbered; at another, from the operation of the militia laws, they thought they had an interest in concealing the number of their families; and it is only of late years that there are few or no hinderances in the way of a correct enumeration. It is not, accordingly, considered as at all certain that the population of this parish is greater now than it was a century ago. The village of Aberlady has doubtless increased in size and in the number of its inhabitants, but in the country part of the parish the population has as certainly diminished; and this state of matters, it is believed, is very general throughout Scotland. A great increase there is, without question, on the whole; but it has taken place chiefly, if not entirely, in the villages and towns.

Character and Condition of the People.—The character of the people in this, as in the neighbouring parishes, is, on the whole, estimable. Intemperance is not frequent amongst them. Those who have children are exceedingly anxious to have them properly educated; they are civil in their manners, industrious in their habits, and by no means inattentive, in general, to religious observances. In the midst, often, of difficulties and hardships, they are not discontented with their lot; and it is matter of no small praise to them, that, with very narrow means, there is so much decency in their apparel, and seeming comfort in their dwellings. Intelligence

is more generally diffused amongst them than the inhabitants of towns are willing to imagine ; and there seems to be no good ground for believing, that they have fallen in any degree from the respectability of their fathers. Wages in this parish and district have been for several years past on a very low scale,—partly from the influx of Irish labourers in summer and harvest,—and partly from the depressed condition of agricultural affairs ; and it is much to be wished, that labour ere long may receive a more abundant reward. The houses, too, allotted to the farm-servants, are frequently not so good as might be reasonably expected ; and hitherto there has in this respect been little of that improvement which unquestionably, on the whole, characterizes the present age. There is at this date some tendency towards a better state of things ; and ground is given to hope, that the cottages on every farm will, at no very distant period, have two apartments instead of one,—that they will be better lighted,—better protected against cold and damp than, generally speaking, they now are, and on the whole, built with more regard to conveniency and comfort. By such alterations, it cannot be doubted, that the health and the habits of the labourer and his family would be improved ; and it seems to be equally certain, that the additional expense to the landlord and farmer would be amply repaid by an increased quantity of labour willingly given, or at least, by the more cheerful performance of the customary task ; setting aside the delight which must spring up in every well-constituted mind on beholding the diffusion of satisfaction and enjoyment.

During the last three years there were 9 illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The parish may be considered as purely agricultural. Its inhabitants have no connection with navigation. There are no fisheries carried on from the coast ; and, with the exception of a brick and tile-work, chiefly employed in making tiles for drains, there is nothing which can be called a manufactory. The few tradesmen in the parish, that is, masons, carpenters, shoemakers, blacksmiths, bakers, tailors, are employed solely in supplying the wants of their immediate neighbours, and there is not a single weaver amongst them. Not more than sixty years ago, there were twenty looms in the village, regularly employed, and a considerable home manufacture of linen cloth ; but from the progress of the cotton manufacture, and the application of machinery to the spinning of flax,

looms and lint, and their necessary concomitant, the domestic wheel, have totally disappeared. In all this there may be good, on the whole, but partial inconvenience is the result, as much want of female employment is experienced during the winter months. Within the same period, too, three corn-mills were at work in the parish, but the progress of improvement has swept them, in like manner, away; and the oatmeal now used is ground at a distance.

Husbandry.—The husbandry of the parish is that improved system of agriculture which prevails in the district and county, and which is too well known to require to be again described. It seems to be enough to say, that the farmers here are as skilful as their neighbours, and the system of management quite as good; that much attention is paid to draining; that the light manures are largely and successfully applied; that vast quantities of turnips are raised, and fed off partly with sheep; and that, though naked fallows are still resorted to on the heavier soils, the breadth is becoming gradually less from the effect of superior culture. Carrots and turnip seed have been raised of late years, to a greater extent than is common in the neighbourhood, but with what advantage remains to be proved. The light soil along the coast is favourable to the production of the former crop, which, in a propitious season, is of very considerable value; the excellence of our climate, to that of the latter; but the cultivation of both seems to be attended with more than usual risk.

Live-stock has hitherto, in this parish and district, been less attended to than in some other parts of the kingdom; but the eyes of the farmer appear to be now fully open to the growing importance of this branch of his profession, and the next few years will probably witness in this respect no small improvement.

Produce.—It is in the last degree difficult to attain anything like an accurate acquaintance with the “average gross amount of raw produce” raised in this parish, and rather than deal in loose conjectures, it seems to be better not to conjecture at all.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—Haddington is the nearest market-town, and distant from the centre of the parish about four miles. Much of the grain raised here, however, is taken to Dalkeith and Edinburgh; where a price is generally obtained more than sufficient to compensate for the extra carriage. In the village of Aberlady, however, most of the articles more immediately connected with comfort and

conveniency may be readily obtained ; and some of them are usually considered as remarkably good in quality.

Means of Communication.—Aberlady has the benefit of a daily post ; and no parish enjoys more fully the means of communication with other districts. A well-regulated coach passes through the village on its way from North-Berwick to Edinburgh every lawful morning, and returns the same evening ; and every day in the week, Sunday excepted, a carrier starts from Aberlady, or passes through it on his way to the capital. The roads in every direction are very good, and their present smoothness presents a striking contrast to the rough and uncomfortable state they were kept in, forty years ago. Thus all sorts of produce are carried easily to market, and more cheaply, too, than in former times ; industry is stimulated by the facility with which its products are exchanged ; and capital is increased by the rapidity with which its returns are made.

Ecclesiastical State—Aberlady appears to have been a parish at an early period. It is supposed that, in very ancient times, the Culdees had an establishment near the village ; and that to this circumstance is to be traced the name “ Kilspindy,”—signifying, in the British speech, the “ cell of the black-heads, or hoods.” This cell was probably connected with the Culdee monastery at Dunkeld, and, at all events, when the bishoprick of Dunkeld was established by David I., he conferred on the bishop of that diocese Kilspindy and Aberlady, with their lands adjacent, the advowson of the church, its tithes, and other rights. This constituted the ecclesiastical barony of Aberlady, over which a “ regality” was subsequently obtained, and the whole parish, notwithstanding its local situation, was included in the bishoprick of Dunkeld. Aberlady continued a mensal church of the Bishop of Dunkeld till the Reformation,—the spiritual duties being performed by a vicar ; and from this ancient connection, the parish was afterwards included within the commissariat of Dunkeld. Gawin Douglas, the celebrated Bishop of Dunkeld, who died in 1522, “ deeply regretted by all good men,” granted the lands of Aberlady and Kilspindy to his half-brother, Sir Archibald Douglas, previously mentioned ; and, in 1589, the then Bishop of Dunkeld resigned into the hands of the King the church of Aberlady with its teinds and pertinents, that it might be converted into a rectory, and the advowson given to Patrick Douglas, Sir Archibald’s grandson, as an independency of the diocese of Dunkeld. James VI. accordingly

erected the whole into a free barony, by the name of Aberlady. From the "Douglases" this barony, with the patronage of the church, passed to the "Fletchers;" from them to the noble family of "Portmore;" and, about forty years ago, into the hands of the Earl of Wemyss, in whose family they remain. The church of Aberlady was built in 1773. It is conveniently situated for the parish, and is on the whole as comfortable as any in the county. It is seated for 525, considerably more than half the population. The number of communicants is about 400, and that of the dissenting families does not exceed 12. The manse was built probably about 150 years ago, and seems for that period to have been a remarkably good one, perhaps the best in the district. It cannot be called so now. The glebe extends to about 8 acres Scotch measure; and the stipend consists of 16 chalders of victual, with the usual allowance for communion elements.

Education.—There are two schools in the parish, one of them parochial with the maximum salary. The school fees amount to about L 20 a-year. The people are fully alive to the benefits of education, and send their children to school, generally, at a very early age. The number of scholars at both schools in winter is about 150; but in spring and summer, for obvious reasons, the attendance is less numerous. In both schools, too, during the winter months, there are evening classes for instruction in writing and arithmetic; and throughout the year, two respectable females occupy a portion of their time in giving lessons in needle-work. There are also two Sunday schools. About a sixth part of the population is thus receiving the benefit of instruction, and laying, it is to be hoped, a good foundation for future usefulness and respectability.

Friendly Societies.—There are two such institutions in the parish, one of which has existed upwards of seventy years,—the other more than forty. They have between them more than L. 400 of capital; and, though not in so flourishing a condition as is to be desired, have been unquestionably in a high degree beneficial, and promise to be useful for many years to come. Friendly societies may be considered as perhaps the best contrivances which have yet been fallen upon for supporting the independence, and promoting the comfort of the working-classes; and they seem to be deserving of more countenance and support from the higher and the middle ranks, than on the whole they have hitherto received. Compared with "saving banks," their superiority can hardly fail to be ad-

mitted ; but both are worthy of all commendation and encouragement. A parish library was established a few years ago, but as yet the funds are small, and the books not numerous.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of poor on the roll in this parish is generally from 20 to 25, and, together with the occasional poor, they receive assistance partly from the collections at the church doors, and mortcloth dues, partly from the interest of 1600 merks Scots, mortified for their use, by Sir Peter Wedderburn of Gosford, one of which family, also, presented to the parish four handsome silver cups for the communion service, and partly from the produce of a regular assessment. The collections and mortcloth dues amount annually to about L. 25 ; the interest of the Gosford mortification is L. 4, 8s. 10d. ; and the assessment has yielded annually, for many years past, between L. 60 and L. 70. From the amount of these sums, the usual small salaries are, of course, paid. In addition to the above sources of supply, the poor are in the habit of receiving, from the liberality of two of the heritors, the sum of L. 15 yearly, at Christmas, for the purchase of coals ; and throughout the year, private charity is believed to be extensive. On the whole, therefore, it is hoped that the claims of the poor are duly attended to. Assessments have existed in the parish more than fifty years, and, as seems to be their nature, have, in the course of that long period, increased considerably. The amount is not very large at present, but it can scarcely be doubted that it will continue to advance ; and by such increase, it does not follow in the least that the wants of the poor will be better supplied. What is given in one form is apt to be withheld in another ;—more reliance is placed on a *visible* fund than turns out to be safe ; and the condition of the poor, and of the labouring classes generally, is seldom improved on the whole. The law which provides for compulsory aid to the necessitous is not to be found fault with ; on the contrary, it is entitled to all praise ; but it is matter of much regret that it should be so often resorted to, at least in small country parishes, where a little consideration on the part of those who are liable to pay would seem to be all that is needful to make provision for the poor, in a way more beneficial to them, more pleasant to all. Till such harmonious arrangements, however, are entered into, it is not to be wondered at that the amount of assessments should increase, and still, that little kindly feeling should exist between those who receive assistance, and those from whom it appears to be wrung. At all

events, it may be considered as unfortunate that the ministers and elders of this church should ever have had anything whatever to do with the distribution of other than purely voluntary funds, as in this way they have been placed in a position most unfavourable to their own comfort, and not at all conducive to the true interest of the people committed to their charge.

Inns and Alehouses.—There are 5 houses in the parish, all of them in the village, licensed to sell ale and spirituous liquors. The number is obviously greater than can be looked upon as advantageous.

Fuel.—The only fuel used in the parish is coal, and that is brought almost entirely from the collieries in the western district of the county. It has risen in price within the last twelve months 40 or 50 per cent. and is at this moment almost beyond the reach of the labouring classes. The quality is but indifferent, not comparable to that of some of the coal brought occasionally from the coast of Fife, or from Mid-Lothian.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It cannot be doubted that, since the date of the former Statistical Account of this parish, its condition has improved. The soil is more effectually drained; green crops are more extensively raised; live-stock is more carefully attended to; many of the fields are better sheltered; the general system of management is less slovenly, and, compared with the amount of produce, less expensive. Steam power in farm operations was then unknown; it is now employed extensively, year after year more extensively, in thrashing out the grain, and, as is universally allowed, with much advantage. The spirit of enterprise is more active amongst the farmers; the labourers are more alert and skilful in their several departments; and all the implements of husbandry are in a state of greater efficiency. Within the last few years even, the science and practice of agriculture have made considerable advances; and there is at present an evident tendency towards still farther improvement.

January 1837.

PARISH OF MORHAM.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES FORSYTH, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name is variously written, Morham, Moreham, Morhame, Morehame. Of these, the first form is the oldest and most correct; although the second is now the most common. The origin of the name is differently given. But if Lord Hailes's principle be well founded, "that the names of the most ancient villages and hamlets in East Lothian are Saxon," the most probable origin of it will be *Moor-ham*, the village on, or bordering upon, the moor. No village, indeed, now exists in the parish. But several circumstances lead to the belief of the former existence of one, probably of considerable extent, and clustered, as was usual, around the stronghold of the Lord of the Manor; in particular, the existence of such a village will help to account for the higher rate of the ancient *taxatio* of the parish, than was otherwise to be expected from its extent.* And immediately west of the locality usually assigned to the extinct village lies a district of the parish still called Morham Moor.

Extent and Boundaries.—The extent of the parish is fully 3 miles in length from east to west, and varying from 1 to $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in breadth. It is bounded on the east by Whittinghame parish; on the west and north by Haddington; and on the south by Garvald. It contains 1458 Scots acres, divided into nine farms of different size, the largest consisting of 315 acres, and the smallest of 27.

Topographical Character.—The parish lies on the acclivity of the land towards the Lammermoor, nearly midway betwixt these Highlands of East Lothian and the sea, and exemplifies at once the gradual nature of that acclivity, and the undulating line of its

* In that *taxatio*, as given in Chalmers's Caledonia, Ecclesia de Morham is rated at 20 merks, while Garvald and Ormiston are rated at 12, and Stenton and Athelstaneford at 10 each.

rise. In aspect, it is bare, tame, and unpicturesque, forming in these respects a complete contrast to the districts of Whittinghame and Gifford to the east and west of it: although, towards the western extremity, it assimilates more to the richly wooded character of these districts. It has neither lake, mountain, nor stream (excepting the small burn of Morham) within its boundaries. It possesses not a morsel of what may be called fine scenery, with the single exception of the pretty little glen which forms the minister's pasture glebe. The inhabitants, however, find a compensation for the bareness and tameness of their residence in the greater degree of salubrity, which the total absence of swamps, the open sky overhead, and the free circulation of the air impart to it. Frequently, on a spring or autumn morning, they are enjoying a bright and pure sunshine, while Haddington and the vale of the Tyne lie beneath their eye buried in dense fog. At the time when other districts of the country were suffering severely under the visitation of the Asiatic cholera, not a single case of it occurred here; and ague, and other diseases incident to thickly wooded, flat and marshy countries, are here unknown.

The highest elevation above the level of the sea may be stated at 300 feet.

Geology.—Nothing very remarkable occurs under this head. Coal was wrought in former times in the western part of the parish, but it seems to have been of very inferior quality, and has not been wrought now for upwards of forty years. It is thought, however, that seams of a better quality still remain untouched in the same neighbourhood. And perhaps it were worth while to ascertain the fact, when the value of a good coal pit in this district of the county is considered.—There is a freestone quarry in the Haggs moor, but the stone is coarse and soft. The rock elsewhere is generally of the trap formation, often highly porphyritic and cellular, and strongly coloured with iron.

Botany.—In the Minister's Glen grow in great profusion *Dianthus deltoides*, *Saxifraga granulata*, *Campanula rotundifolia*, *Viola tricolor* and *canina*, *Sedum acre*, *Thymus serpyllum*, *Galium verum*, *Veronica officinalis*, &c. so as, in summer, to cover the banks with a beautifully mottled carpet, of which the predominating colour varies with the successive months. In the burn and along its edges occur *Epilobium hirsutum* (great hairy willow-herb,) abundantly; *Mentha hirsuta* (hairy mint;) *Alisma plantago* (great water plan-

tain;) *Spiræa ulmaria* (meadow-sweet;) *Geum rivale* (water avens;) *Veronica beccabunga* (brooklime;) *Nasturtium officinale*, (common water-cress) in great plenty; *Caltha palustris* (marsh marigold,) &c. In the moor, not yet quite extirpated, and ever ready to spring up abundantly, occur in patches, *Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica tetralix*, and *E. cinerea*, (common, cross-leaved, and fine-leaved heath;) and bushes of juniper (*Juniperus communis*) are here and there to be met with. In the pasture fields, the scarlet pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*,) whose petals close at the approach of rain, and indicate fair weather by their opening in the morning, is occasionally to be found. And among the plants to be met with elsewhere may be mentioned the following:—*Antirrhinum linaria* (yellow toad-flax;) *Achillea ptarmica* (sneezewort;) *Artemisia absinthium* (common wormwood;) *Convolvulus arvensis* (small bindweed;) *Atropa belladonna* (deadly nightshade;) *Echium vulgare* (viper's bugloss;) *Geranium pratense* (meadow crane's-bill;) *Hypericum perforatum* (perforated St John's wort;) *Lychnis dioica*, (red and white campion;) *Mulva sylvestris* (common mallow;) *Orchis maculata* (spotted orchis;) *Potentilla anserina* (silver-weed;) *Reseda lutea*, (wild mignonette.) It is remarkable that the primrose does not occur.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—There are few of these connected with the parish. In former times a castle, of which not a vestige now remains, stood on a point of land near the church, and overlooking the glen below, which no doubt was the residence and stronghold of the Lord of the Manor.* Who the Lord of the Manor was previous to the twelfth century cannot be ascertained; but it would appear that then the manor of Morham was possessed by a family bearing the name of Malherb, who assumed from the property the name of *Morham* or *de Morham*, after the fashion of the time of taking the surname from the family possession. In this family it came down to Sir Thomas de Morham, who was of some distinction in the time of Robert Bruce. In him the title became extinct. And his daughter and heiress, Euphemia, marrying Sir John de Gifford, of Yester, transferred to him the manor of Morham, along with other estates,—from whom it passed, by another female transmission, to the Hays of Locherwart, the ancestors of the Marquis of Tweeddale.

* The field on the opposite side of the glen to where the castle stood is still called *the Castle Shot*.

The manor of Morham included, as far as we can ascertain, nearly the whole of that division of the parish which lies west of the church, and which now forms several distinct properties. The eastern division would appear to have once formed part of the extensive possessions of the Earls of Bothwell, who, first as the Hebburns of Hales, retainers of the powerful Earls of Dunbar, subsequently as Barons or Lords of Hales, and finally as Earls of Bothwell, have been much mixed up with the history of the county and of Scotland. The extract given below* mentions *Mainshill* as belonging to James Earl of Bothwell, who finished his infamous career as Duke of Orkney, and husband of our unfortunate Mary. And "the barony of Morham" is specified among the estates restored, together with the forfeited titles of the family, to Francis Earl of Bothwell, nephew of the former Earl, by James VI. By this Earl Francis the barony was finally forfeited in 1593.

This eastern division of the parish now belongs wholly to Earl Wemyss. The western division, forming the old manor of Morham, ultimately became the property of Sir David Dalrymple, Queen's Advocate in the reign of Queen Anne, who also bought the estate of Hailes. While in the possession of the Dalrymples, portions of it were sold from time to time,—until in 1830 the present representative of that junior branch of the Noble family of Stair finally denuded herself of the manor of Morham.

Tradition points to the Glen of Morham as a place where the people, in far remote days, were wont to assemble to hear the gospel preached. And no scene, certainly, could be better adapted for the purpose than the particular spot which is thus hallowed. It is perfectly secluded, and in no degree indicated on the face of the country. The position ascribed to the preacher is a small rocky table, elevated a little above the margin of the burn, which runs murmuring in front;—while the *brae* opposite, where the con-

* 1559 October. The Earl of Bothwell attacked Cockburn of Ormiston, who had received 4000 crowns from Sir Ralph Sadler, for the use of the Congregation, and, wounding him, carried off the money. Sadler mentions that Arran and Moray immediately went with 200 horsemen, and 100 footmen, and two pieces of artillery, to Bothwell's house, in Haddington, where he occasionally resided, but were a quarter of an hour too late. Having got notice that the troopers were entering the West Port in pursuit of him, Bothwell fled down the Gowd Close to the Tyne, and keeping along the bed of the river, stole into the house of Cockburn of Sandy Bed, by a back-door, and changing clothes with the turnspit, performed her duty for some days, till he found an opportunity to escape. In return for this timeous shelter, Bothwell gave Cockburn and his heirs a perpetual ground annual of 4 bolls of wheat, 4 bolls of barley, and 4 bolls of oats, out of his lands of Mainshill, in the county of Haddington, parish of Morham.

gregation are said to have sat, is of a semicircular form, rising with a gentle slope to the level of the country above. The tradition may be without foundation, as no historical record specially sanctions it:—it may refer, indeed, to a time as to which all is dark and uncertain, the era, namely, of the first introduction of Christianity to East Lothian. But it is pleasing to cherish the belief of it—to fancy that here St Baldred himself preached, as it gives the additional charm of a sacred interest, to a spot of much natural sweetness in itself.

Proprietors.—The Cess-Book of 1667, gives the following proprietors of the parish at that date,—Lady Bearford, Viscount of Kingston, Laird of Beanston, Mr James Cockburn.

The present proprietors are, Lord Wemyss, to whom belong Standingstones,* Northrigg, and Mainhill; Robert Ainslie, Esq. of Redcoll, proprietor of Morham Mains, and Morham Kirkhall; James Aitchison, Esq. of West Morham; George Carstairs, Esq. of Morham Bank; Kenneth Mackenzie, Esq. of Rentonhall; and Captain Cameron, of Beech-hill.

Eminent Men.—An aisle behind the church contains the burying vault of the Dalrymples of Hailes. And here are deposited the remains of the first Baronet, Sir David, already mentioned; of his son Sir James, who was Auditor of the Exchequer, and connected by marriage with the Earls of Haddington; and of Lord Hailes, who died in 1792.

Parochial Records.—The earliest date in these records is February 22, 1712. Mention is subsequently made of “old session minutes,” which must have been of a date prior to 1712; but these are irrecoverably lost. From that date, they appear to have been accurately kept, and contain in the earlier portion, a most particular notice of parish occurrences and transactions,—births and marriages, intermixed with accounts of the sessional income and expenditure, who preached on the Sabbath, or if there was no sermon, whether the minister preached or lectured, &c. &c. The following rather remarkable notices occur:—

1715, October 13. This being the time of the Rebellion, the cash in the box† was committed to Mr Barclay’s care. (Mr Bar-

* So called from several immense upright stones, in different enclosures of the farm, such as occur in other parts of the country, the memorials probably of some forgotten feud.

† A “big box” and a “little box” were long kept; the former to contain the larger sums, bonds, bills, &c., the property of the session,—the latter to receive the collections and occasional contributions in course of the year. The current expen-

clay was minister at that time, afterwards translated to Haddington.)

1718, Nov. 16. The sum of L. 13, 8s. Scots, collected for the support of the ministers of Lithuania.

1719, Dec. 6. The sum of L. 8, 9s. 11d. Scots, collected for our distressed Protestant brethren in Franconia, in Germany.

1720, Nov. 6. The sum of L. 8, 10s. Scots, collected for building the church of Livingstone, in Presbytery of Linlithgow.

1722. Sept. 30. Given by the minister's order to an Episcopal minister, L. 1, 10s. Scots.

1723, August 18. To an old distressed Episcopal minister, 12s.

Dec. 15. To a sand-glass, 8s. S.

1724, June 21. Collected for building a church in New York, in America, for our brethren, L. 6, 4s. 3d. Scots.

1735, August 3. The session resolves to make a collection as soon as convenient, for the redemption of one William Dowell, a slave at Algiers.

1742, August 1. To Mr Bruce, Dissenting minister in Newcastle, for defraying the charge of building a meeting-house, L. 3.

III.—POPULATION.

The return to Dr Webster in 1755 is said in the former Statistical Account to have stated the population at 345 souls. If the number be rightly given, a decrease has since that time taken place, which it is difficult to account for either by the junction of farms, the larger use of machinery and consequent reduction of hands employed in agriculture, or any other change to which a small agricultural parish like this can have been subject. For in 1791 the population had sunk so low as 190, and at no time subsequent has it exceeded 265. It is conceived that some material error found its way into the return of 1755. And indeed another authority* takes off just 100 from that return.

The four last Returns to Government exhibit the following particulars :

1801. Families in the parish 53; males 137; females 117; total 254.

1811. Families 52; of these employed in agriculture 43; in trade, &c. 9. Males 113; females 106; total 219.

1821. Families 52; of these employed in agriculture 46; in trade, &c. 6. Males 121; females 120; total 241.

ses were paid out of the little box, and when the funds therein were insufficient a sum was drawn from the big box. At the year's end, a reckoning of "charge and discharge," was formally made with the kirk-treasurer, when the money left in the little box was transferred to the big box, and a note entered on the session record of the whole monies on hand.

* Chalmers's Tabular State of Haddingtonshire.

1881. Families 50; of these employed in agriculture 40; in trade, &c. 10
 Males upwards of 20 years of age, . . . 60
 under 20, . . . 59
 Females, 143; Total, 262.

The average of births, marriages, and deaths is, as in the former Account, viz. births from 5 to 6; marriages from 1 to 2; deaths from 3 to 4.

Only one small proprietor is resident in the parish. The people are in general sober, industrious, frugal, and contented. Nothing has occurred among them for many years requiring the intervention of the civil magistrate. And only two cases, and these by no means of an aggravated character, have called for the exercise of sessional discipline since the present incumbency.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The parish is wholly agricultural. Of those not actually employed in the labours of the field, there are 2 blacksmiths and 1 wright, a millwright. The parish is also honoured by the residence of a tailor.

Husbandry—Soil.—The lands are all well enclosed, mostly with stone dikes, in many cases with hedges, which, however, receive but very little attention from the farmer; a neglect too common in East Lothian. The soil in general inclines to clay, and in the eastern and middle portions of the parish, particularly around the church, is of very excellent quality. Towards the west end, it becomes much inferior, although even there, by a liberal and judicious treatment, it is made to yield wheat of a superior description. All the land capable of tillage is under cultivation, excepting about 40 acres of thriving plantation, chiefly on Rentonhall, and West Morham. The system of husbandry practised is of the most improved kind, the rotation of crop being adapted to the better or worse quality of the land. A considerable breadth of turnip is annually grown to be eaten on the ground. And the improvement of laying the land down in grass for two or more years is generally adopted. Draining, both tile and wedge, has, of late more especially, been carried to a great extent here, as well as generally throughout the county, and much is about to be done in that way on one of the principal farms recently leased anew. The average produce per acre may be stated to be, of wheat 8½ bolls; of oats 8; of barley 8. Very little hay is grown. No sheep are bred in the parish. About 40 score are annually pastured.

Rent, Leases.—The gross rent of the parish is stated in the former

Account to have been about L. 800. In 1816, when the average rent of the land per acre was so high as L. 2, the gross rental was more than triple that sum, viz. L. 2916. And taking the present average of rent per acre at L. 1, 8s., the gross rental amounts to L. 2041, 4s. Sterling. There must therefore have been some egregious error in the former statement. The valued rent is L. 1614, 9s. 7d. The sum assessed for the parish roads is L. 46, 10s., the product of $23\frac{1}{4}$ ploughgates at L. 2 each.

The leases are all of nineteen years duration. In one recent instance, the choice of a money or grain rent, to be made and become final at the end of the first year, was given. In another instance, the rent is wholly grain, viz. a boll of wheat. In a third instance the rent is one-half money, and one-half corn of the three sorts. The rents are understood to be in general advantageous to the farmer.

Wages.—The rate of labourers' wages has for some years been stationary at 1s. 6d. per day summer and winter. Females receive 10d. per day. Hynds, who are generally married, are paid in greater part in kind, and receive 12 bolls of oats, 3 bolls of barley, 8 bushels of peas, L. 1 in lieu of lint, a cow's grass and winter keep, 800 or 1000 yards of ground for potatoes, or in some cases 4 bolls of potatoes instead, five weeks' meat during harvest, and their coals driven free. Those who can stack and sow receive half a boll of wheat additional. They pay the rent of their house and garden by reaping during harvest, which is usually done by the wife or some other member of the family, and, failing this, by a hired reaper. In some instances they are obliged to keep a worker for field-work, called a bondager (a vexatious appellation, now very properly passing out of use,) all the year.—Cottars have their house and garden from the farmer, on the conditions of working during harvest, and keeping always a bondager, who receives 10d. a-day when employed, and must be at call. Providing a bondager, they are not themselves astricted to labour on the farm, and when employed, receive the current daily wages of labourers. They are allowed 800 yards of ground for potatoes, and have their coals driven free.

The houses both of hynds and cottars are here, as elsewhere, miserably deficient in accommodation. They have usually only one apartment, and that but small. And in that one room, often ill-aired, worse lighted, and damp, are to be found crowded together sometimes a family of eight or ten persons. The extreme inconveni-

ence of this is most severely felt in cases of sickness. And at all times, it must be of most injurious tendency to the modesty and decency of domestic intercourse. Houses of a superior and more commodious description for the farm-servants, containing each two apartments, are now erecting on the farm of Morham Mains,—an example which, for the sake of the health, comfort, and good morals of an important and valuable class of our rustic population, it were much to be desired, should be generally followed.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market.—The market-town is Haddington, from which the distance is three miles, and where an excellent market is found equally for the sale of the various produce of the parish, and for the purchase of such articles as the inhabitants may require.

Means of Communication.—The parish labours under great disadvantages on this head. No public conveyance of any kind passes through it, or comes nearer than Haddington. The inhabitants have to send to Haddington for their letters, or depend on chance opportunities of having them brought up. Not even a carrier belongs to the parish, and it only gets a share of the accommodation of the Garvald and Stenton carriers, as they pass through the east and west extremities onward. The main roads are now tolerably well kept, but very circuitous, and the comfort and ease of the inter-communication of the parish are much impeded by the deplorable state of the branch road, (if road it may be called,) leading through a large division of it westward.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is pleasantly situated at the entrance of the little glen before-mentioned, and nearly in the centre of the parish. No record exists when it was first built, but it was taken down and rebuilt in its former situation in 1724.* It has since been occasionally repaired, and is at present in tolerably good condition. It contains sufficient accommodation for the present wants of the parish, and may be enlarged at a small expense if necessary.—The manse till recently stood down close by the church; but having become ruinous beyond all repair, and the minister having frequently been incommoded to a very great degree by the flooding of the burn which flowed round it, it was pulled down in 1827, the site of it thrown into the garden, and a new and handsomely finished manse built in a situation as much

* While the church was rebuilding, the minister preached, on alternate days, with the minister of Garvald, at Barra, then united with Garvald, although still possessing a separate place of worship.—Session Records.

exposed as the old situation was snug and sheltered, at a cost of L. 900 Sterling. The offices remain where they were. — The glebe consists of 4 acres of good land, together with the said glen, commonly called Morham Braes, as a grass glebe, the extent of which may be about 2 acres of excellent early pasture. — The stipend is augmented by the Government Bounty from L. 109, 2s. Sterling. — The patronage seems always to have belonged to the Lord of the Manor, but was retained by Miss Dalrymple when the property was sold.

There are few Dissenters in the parish, — none among the tenantry, with the exception of one family recently come. The people attend church with becoming regularity. Average number of communicants 95 ; male heads of families, 32.

Education. — The parochial school is the only one. The salary of the schoolmaster is L. 34, 4s. 4½d. with an allowance for deficiency of garden ground. He has the legal accommodations, although the house is small and inconvenient. There is a capital school-house lately built anew. Owing to the convenience of situation of the school and other circumstances, there is a much greater attendance of scholars than the parish supplies, — the average number being so high as 75. The branches taught, are, besides the usual ones, geography, mensuration, and French. There are generally three or four learning the languages. — There is not an individual of a proper age in the parish who cannot read, and the people have a just sense of the value of education to their children. — The minister meets the children belonging to the congregation after sermon on the Sabbath.

Poor and Parochial Funds. — The sources of aid to the poor of the parish are, the collections of the church door, and mortcloth dues, the interest of a small sum of money now lessening, and when these fail assessments. There is at present only one person receiving a regular allowance, but a few others get occasional aid, and a supply of coals, meal, and flannel in winter. There is, besides, the burden of an orphan child. The people still cherish in general an honourable aversion to “coming upon the parish.”

Fuel. — The fuel used is coal, brought generally from Penston colliery, distant about eight miles. The price of a cart is nearly doubled by the carriage.

Inns. — There is only one ale-house at Crossgate Hall, kept by the patriarch of the parish. There is not a drunkard from one end of the parish to the other.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Morham is one of those few very small parishes in the church which ought either to be annihilated, by dividing them among the surrounding parishes, or augmented to a sufficient amount of population by additions from such populous parishes as may lie contiguous. In the case of Morham, the latter is the process that ought to be adopted. Additions might, with propriety, be made to it, from the outskirts of several of the contiguous parishes, where the inhabitants are considerably nearer the church of Morham than that of their own parish. And, in particular, while complaint is made of the want of church accommodation in the extensive parish of Haddington, an easy remedy of the evil, in great part, offers itself, by annexing that portion of the landward district of Haddington which lies in to Morham to that parish, and, on the west side transferring another portion of it to Bolton.

February 1837.

PARISH OF BOLTON.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV JOHN ABERNETHY, A. M. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THE etymology of the name of this parish is quite uncertain.

Extent, &c.—It extends in length nearly 6 miles, and its medium breadth may be $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile. Its figure is extremely irregular, and could not be easily described without a map. It is bounded on the north-west, north, and east by the parish of Haddington, which is separated from it on the east and north-east for about three miles, by what is called the Gifford, or the Bolton, or the Coalston water, after the parishes, or properties through which it runs; on the south, by Yester parish; and on the west and north-west, by the parishes of Humbie and Salton.

There are no mountain ranges in this parish, and scarcely anything that can be called a hill, the highest ridges being all under the plough, or capable of being so. The surface, however, is agree-

ably diversified by undulating elevations; and everywhere has abundant declivity for thoroughly draining the soil.

Hydrography.—The parish is abundantly supplied with spring water, with the exception, perhaps, of two farms. The principal stream is the one already mentioned, as constituting the greater part of the boundary between this parish and that of Haddington. It is a small rapid river, which has its principal sources in the Lammermuir hills, but is fed by various tributary streamlets in its course downwards. After running through the grounds of Yester, Eaglescarnie, Dalgourie, Bolton, Coalston, and Lennoxlove, it joins the Tyne in the grounds of the latter place, about a mile west from Haddington.

This beautiful stream is well stocked with trout, and throughout the greater part of its course its banks are adorned with plantations of wood. Some of the trees are very fine.

The only other rivulet worthy of notice is the Birns Water, which also rises in the Lammermuir hills, and forms the boundary between this parish and that of Humble. It holds on its course downwards between the parishes of Humble and Pencaitland on the one hand, and that of Salton on the other, till it unites with the Tyne in the grounds of Mr Fletcher of Salton. At the point of junction with the Tyne, it is rather the larger of the two.

Meteorology.—On this head nothing need be added to what has been already stated in the other accounts of the district. Like that of the surrounding parishes, the climate is very salubrious. A good many instances of longevity occur in the register of deaths. There are several such instances at present, and about five years ago, one woman died in the hundred and fifth year of her age.

Geology and Mineralogy.—On this head almost nothing can at present be said, as there is not an open quarry in the whole parish. The strata are to a small extent exposed by the action of the river first mentioned. In part of its course may be seen a sort of coarse sandstone nearly horizontal. Limestone might probably be found, as it occurs very near the boundaries, in the parishes of Salton and Yester. Boulders are met with, when the soil is opened up by drains or otherwise; and it is probable, have been of frequent occurrence, but have been broken up for economical purposes. Any that the writer has examined are of very compact greenstone, no body of which is known to exist within a very considerable distance.

The soil is all arable, and is all under the plough, excepting

what is covered by wood, which is also capable of cultivation, and a few inconsiderable patches on the sides of the streams.

There is a tract extending from Morham Muir through part of the parishes of Morham, Haddington, Yester, Bolton, Salton, and Humble, the soil of which is of a very inferior quality, being generally a cold thin clay on a tilly subsoil. Part of this tract has been originally covered by heath, as is evident from what is still to be seen in the woods. The soil of the rest of the parish is generally good—a fertile clay with some inconsiderable exceptions; and has been brought into a very productive state by the improved system of cultivation which has long prevailed in this district.

Botany.—In the different plantations are found all the ordinary species of forest trees. Eaglescarnie, which is well wooded, has fine old timber on its grounds, and, in particular, some Spanish chestnuts of large size near the house. In these woods the principal native plants of any note occur; among which may be noticed, as not so common, *Listera nidus avis*, and *Campanula rapunculoides*. *Silene pratensis* is seen in considerable abundance.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

It is stated by Chalmers in his *Caledonia*, Vol. ii. p. 437, &c. “that the manor of Bolton was early enjoyed by the St Hilaries, who were succeeded by William de Vetereponte, who married Emma de St Hilary. Notwithstanding the terrible disasters of the succession war, in which, as we learn from Rymer and Prynne, this family was involved, yet was Bolton, with lands in other districts, enjoyed by it under Robert I. and David II. In the reign of James II. it belonged to George, Lord Haliburton of Dirleton. It was at length acquired by Patrick Hepburn, Earl of Bothwell, after a long suit in Parliament with Marion, the Lady of Bolton,” (in which his principles and character appear to great disadvantage.) “In 1526 and 1543, Bolton was in possession of a cadet of his family, by the name of Hepburn of Bolton. In January 1568, John Hepburn of Bolton was executed, as the associate of the Earl of Bothwell, his chief, in the murder of Darnley. The manor of Bolton, thus forfeited, was given to William Maitland, the well known Secretary Lethington. It was confirmed to the Earl of Lauderdale in 1621. Richard, Earl of Lauderdale, who died about the year 1693, sold the barony of Bolton, and even the ancient inheritance of Lethington, to Sir Thomas Livingston, who was created Viscount Teviot in 1696; and Sir Thomas transferred the whole to Walter, Master of Blantyre, afterwards Lord Blan-

tyre, in 1702, in whose family the property remains." The money for this purchase was left by Frances Teresa Stuart, Duchess of Richmond and Lennox, who was grand-daughter of the first Lord Blantyre. The name was by this Lady's will changed from Lethington to Lennoxlove, not certainly a happy change so far as the sound is concerned.

Land-owners.—The only residing heritor in this parish is the Honourable General Patrick Stuart, Commander of the Forces in Scotland, whose place of residence is Eaglescarnie, pleasantly situated near the stream already mentioned. Eaglescarnie was for several centuries the residence of a branch of the Haliburtons, Lords of Dirleton. In 1747, Patrick Lindesay, Esq. of the Lindesays of Kirkforthar, (descended from the Lords Lindsay of the Byres), married Margaret, daughter and heiress of Thomas Haliburton, Esq. of Eaglescarnie, and she being heir of line, Patrick Lindesay, Esq. was designed by that title. Their eldest daughter, Katharine, married Alexander, tenth Lord Blantyre; and the Honourable General Patrick Stuart, before-mentioned, is their second son, and acquired the estate of Eaglescarnie by a deed of entail of his grandfather, Patrick Lindesay. The other land-owners in the parish, are, Lord Blantyre, the Marquis of Tweeddale, the Earl of Dalhousie, Lord Sinclair, Fletcher of Salton, Bogue of Kirkland, and Grant of Pilmuir.

Parochial Registers—These consist of several volumes, the earliest of which commences anno 1641. They comprehend the records of the kirk-session and registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths. The register of deaths has not been very regularly kept, and the first volume of the records is a good deal tarnished.

Antiquities.—Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, Vol. ii. p. 404, says, "The most prominent objects which next attract the antiquarian eye, are the hill-forts of the earliest people. Of this nature, probably, is the camp in Bolton parish, comprehending five or six acres, and is called Chesters." In Vol. i. p. 163, 164, he says, "from St Abb's-head, along the coast, no Roman camp has yet been discovered, whatever antiquarians may have supposed."

Chalmers is certainly incorrect in this conjecture and assertion. The camp in Bolton-muir, though now greatly defaced, has evidently been quadrangular, whereas the British strengths, it is believed, were almost uniformly circular, unless when unavoidably otherwise, from the nature of the situation, which is not the case here, as the ground is level, bounded on one side only by a ravine

of no great depth. Although there be no known remains of Roman roads in East Lothian, this is no evidence that there may not have been such. In a country so early and so completely cultivated as East Lothian, such roads must long since have disappeared, excepting in so far as their direction coincided with the existing roads. It is hardly conceivable that a people, so shrewd and able as the Romans were, who so long occupied the best parts of Britain, and who had such large armies to maintain, should have overlooked so fertile a district as this is. Besides, the great Roman road by Lauder, Channelkirk and Soutra-hill, considerable remains of which are still visible in the less cultivated portions of its tract, passed along close by the district of East Lothian, and in its progress over Soutra-hill, commanded a most magnificent and extensive prospect of almost the whole of its surface. No one who knows the history of the Romans can suppose it possible that this could have escaped their notice, or that they did not take advantage of the supplies which such a district was capable of affording them. To secure these supplies, they must have had stations at proper intervals. Two of these, at least, it is believed, are still to be seen. The late intelligent Mr Sangster of Humble pronounces the fort on the lands of Whitburgh to have been a Roman castellum. It is only a short distance east from the itinerary station of Curry on the Gore Water, the Curia of the Romans. The camp in Bolton parish is distant from this fort somewhere about six miles. The very name Chesters seems to indicate a Roman origin. This name, which occurs so often, both singly, as in the present instance, and in composition, as in the names *Tadcaster*, *Worcester*, *Manchester*, &c. is certainly a corruption of the Roman *Castra*, and points out many of the military stations of that remarkable people.

There is now no vestige of the remains of a mansion on the manor of Bolton, mentioned in the former Statistical Account; but the field on which it stood is still called the Orchard Park.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population amounted to	359
1791,	235
1801,	252
1811,	265
1821,	315
1831,	332
1835, males, 158; females, 165;	323
Average of births,	64½
of marriages,	1½
of deaths,	3

		Males.	Females.	Total.
Population under 15 years of age,	-	64	61	125
between 15 and 30,	-	40	44	84
30 and 50,	-	34	37	71
50 and 70,	-	17	19	36
upwards of 70,	-	8	4	7
		<hr/> 158	<hr/> 165	<hr/> 323

Proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, - 8

Number of families chiefly employed in agriculture, - 67

During the three years preceding the date of this report, there was one illegitimate birth in the parish.

Manufactories.—There is one manufactory for smith-work, one for rural carpentry, and one corn and barley-mill, belonging to three families, and employing six or seven individuals. There is no tailor, no shoemaker, and no public-house.

There are no insane persons at present in the parish, and none deaf and dumb, or blind.* It is not believed that there are any who engage in poaching or smuggling.

As Bolton is an entirely agricultural parish, and none encouraged to reside in it but such as are necessary for agricultural purposes, the trifling increase or decrease of the population in different years is owing to the state of agriculture, and to the state of the families, as to numbers, which are perpetually fluctuating, in consequence of the frequent changes of residence from one parish to another. The same cause accounts, to a certain extent, for the fluctuation in the proportions between the male and the female portions of the population.

But there is another point of view of much more importance, in regard to the influence which these frequent changes are calculated to have on character and morals. Those who are frequently shifting their places of residence can never feel themselves identified with the views and interests of any neighbourhood, nor fully experience the salutary influence of its institutions. In reference to the causes of these frequent changes, is it not deserving the serious consideration of all parties concerned, whether they sufficiently cherish that reciprocal sympathy and regard for each others interests, which is so productive of good in every relation,—and whether there be a proper distinction made by those who have

* Since this was written one case of insanity has occurred. This person is under the care of her relatives, who receive for her from the parish L. 12 per annum. There is also a case of blindness. This young man is at present, at an expense of five shillings a week to the parish, supported in the Edinburgh Asylum for the Blind, with a view to his being instructed in some art by which he may be enabled to support himself.

the power, between the conscientious and well-behaved, and those who are otherwise?

In some of the other parochial accounts, attention has been earnestly called to the very inadequate accommodation provided in the houses of the most numerous class of our population, which is far from being propitious to their morals or their comfort. Nothing, surely, but the awakening of attention to the subject, is necessary to bring about some amelioration. It cannot be doubted that there are many who only require to have the matter brought prominently under their notice, to induce them to abate this crying evil. If there should be others indifferent or hostile to any alteration for the better, they might be influenced to change their views, by the example of those who have the good of their fellow-creatures more at heart.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.

Number of Scottish acres under cultivation, rated at 30½ ploughgates,	-	2101
in permanent pasture,	- - - - -	55
under wood,	- - - - -	295
		<hr/>
Total,		2451

Rent of Land.—The average rent per acre is L. 1, 6s. 9½d., the grain rents being calculated by the average of the medium fiars of wheat for the seven years ending with 1834.

The highest rent is seven bushels of wheat, and the lowest, three bushels at the medium fiars, with a maximum of L. 3, 10s. per imperial quarter, and no minimum. There might also be quoted in one case, a maximum of L. 3, 4s. and a minimum of L. 2, 4s. The total rent is L. 2888, 1s. 6d.; the valued rent, Scottish money, L. 2437, 12s. 7d.

Produce.—

Calculating the prices of grain of all kinds at the medium fiars for the average of the seven years ending with 1834, the produce is about	L. 7709	15	0
Produce of green crops, hay and pasture, and of the cattle, horses, and sheep fed on these, as nearly as can be estimated, about	-	2115	7* 0
Produce from the thinnings, &c. of the woods, about	-	300	0 0
		<hr/>	
Total,		L. 10,125	2 0

It is unnecessary to notice the other particulars under this head, as they differ in nothing from the statements in the accounts of the neighbouring parishes already published.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—There is no town or village in the parish. The

* The produce from the green crops, hay, and pasture, is given in one sum, because these crops are generally consumed on the farm, and the value of each separately cannot be easily ascertained.

nearest market-town is Haddington, distant nearly two miles from the lower part of the parish, and two miles and three-quarters from the church. Besides what is sold in Haddington, a considerable part of the produce is carried to the Dalkeith and Edinburgh markets.

Means of Communication.—The great road from London to Edinburgh by Haddington passes within the distance specified in the last particular. The road from Edinburgh to Dunse, by Tranent, Pencaitland, Salton, Yester, and across the Lammermuir Hills, traverses the parish near the centre, where it is narrowest, being there scarcely a mile in breadth. There is another road tolerably good for a considerable part of its length, which crosses that last mentioned nearly at right angles, and runs through the whole length of the parish. Several of the statute labour roads are in a rather indifferent state of repair. There is no post-office in the parish. It is accommodated by the office at Haddington, and part of the upper part of the parish by that at West Salton.

Ecclesiastical State.—William de Vetereponte, before-mentioned, granted the church of Bolton, with its lands, tithes, and pertinents to the canons of Holyrood; and this gift was confirmed by a charter of William the Lion. It remained in the hands of the canons of Holyrood till the Reformation. In 1633, the epoch of the Episcopate of Edinburgh, it was annexed to the newly created bishoprick, which was itself subverted in 1641. In the ancient taxatio, the church of Bolton was rated at the inconsiderable value of 20 merks.*

The present church was built in 1809. It is a handsome building in what has been called, whether properly or not, the modern Gothic style, with a square tower at the western end. It can accommodate nearly 300 sitters, and, consequently, is larger than is necessary for the population. The situation is very inconvenient for the upper part of the parish, being near its lower extremity. The manse was built a few years before the church; is suitable to the parish, and in good repair.

The glebe contains 6.286 acres, and was let during the greater part of the writer's incumbency for L. 25; but is not worth so much now. The stipend is the minimum, with L. 8, 8s. 10½d. in name of grass mail and communion elements, though now quite inadequate for both purposes.

* Caledonia, Vol. ii. p. 531.

The whole population is connected with the Established Church, with the exception of one family, which is Episcopalian, and a very few individuals, who are Seceders.* The average number of communicants for the last fifteen years is 119.

There has been contributed for a number of years past, upwards of L. 10 Sterling a year for religious and charitable purposes.

Ministers of Bolton.—Mr Andrew Simson, vicar and exhorter, November 1567; Mr James Carmichael, minister of Haddington, Bolton, Estanefurd, and St Martin's Kirk in the Nungaitt, 1574, resigned Bolton about 1586; William Balfour, reader at Bolton, 1574; Mr James Lamb, admitted September 1587, died 1640; Mr John Courtie or Courtane, admitted 1640; Mr James Nairn, admitted 1662; Mr Walter Paterson, admitted November 23, 1665, outed for refusing the test, 1681; Mr John Sinclair, admitted November 30, 1682, continued after the Revolution, and died 1705; Mr William Hamilton, admitted May 11, 1708, died May 1743; Mr John Hamilton, admitted 1744, died February 14, 1797; Mr Alexander Brunton, admitted September 28, 1797, translated to New Greyfriars', Edinburgh, in 1803; Mr Andrew Stewart, admitted April 26, 1804, translated to Erskine, 1815; Mr John Abernethy, admitted May 14, 1816.

Education.—The parochial school is the only one in the parish, and it would be quite sufficient for the population if it were not for the localities already alluded to. Those children who are at too great a distance from the parish school are accommodated at schools in the neighbouring parishes. The branches taught are those common to all parish schools, with geography, mathematics, Latin, French, and occasionally Greek, all which are efficiently taught by Mr Young, the present master. The school-fees are the same with those already reported in the accounts of the neighbouring parishes. The salary is the maximum, or L. 34, 4s. 5d. The school-fees may amount to nearly L. 40, besides the other emoluments commonly attached to this office, which in so small a parish do not amount to much. Besides the salary and school fees, the master has a salary of L. 3, 3s. as session-clerk, and five per cent. as heritors' clerk on the money levied for roads and assessments for the poor, which amounts to about L. 3. His fees for registering births and marriages, and for certificates, scarcely amount to L. 1 per annum. The legal accommodations

* Since the above was written, three Dissenting and one Roman Catholic family have come to the parish.

for the master are provided. The dwelling-house has just undergone extensive repairs. The school-house was built a few years ago, and is very neat, substantial, and commodious. The school is well attended. The present teacher has had upwards of 100 scholars in winter. The average attendance is about 72. But this school cannot in future be expected to attract so many children, as some of the adjoining parishes are now better appointed in teachers than they were during the greater portion of the period to which the above statement refers. It is not believed that there are any above six years of age who cannot read more or less accurately, and few who cannot also write. The parents, in general, seem anxious to have their children educated according to their circumstances, although in some cases they are not kept sufficiently long at school, nor so regularly as is necessary.

There is, besides the week-day school, one on the Sabbath, exclusively for religious instruction; and a more advanced class taught in the minister's house on the Sabbath evenings.

Libraries.—There is a small parochial library; and for a good many years past, there has been stationed here one division of the Itinerating Libraries, established by Mr Samuel Brown of Haddington.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid for the last ten years is $4\frac{7}{10}$, nearly one in every 70. The allowance to each for a year is from L. 3, 5s. to L. 3, 18s., although in extraordinary cases more is given. The average expenditure for the last seven years has been L. 26, 8s.; but this includes several small fees, for which there is no other provision. The income to meet this arises from the weekly collections, the interest of L. 120 of accumulations, the hire for a hearse and mortcloths, and an assessment averaging for the above period L. 8, 13s. 2½d. per annum.

Our experience here accords with that of all the parishes where recourse has been had to assessments for any length of time,—namely, a diminishing reluctance to apply for parochial aid, and less of that honourable and amiable anxiety in children to share their gains in promoting the comfort of their aged parents, who submitted to many privations on their account, before they were able to provide for themselves. It must, however, in justice be recorded, that there are honourable and laudable exceptions to this common remark. There are some children who struggle hard, and submit cheerfully to many privations, for the sake of their aged

parents, and whom nothing but dire necessity could induce to allow those so dear to them to become dependent on foreign aid.

Besides the above provision for the poor, the late benevolent ladies, Katharine Lady Blantyre, and her sister, Miss Lindesay of Eaglescarnie, left L. 100 each,—or, after deducting the legacy-duty, L. 180, for the relief of persons in distress, the interest to be given irrespective of the ordinary allowance. This has been hitherto expended in affording occasional relief, in supplying coals, and in paying the school fees of children whose parents stand in need of such aid.

Fuel.—This district is abundantly supplied with coals from Penston, Pencaitland, and Huntlaw, which are within a moderate distance from every part of the parish.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In the former Statistical Account of this parish, it is stated that there were about 150 acres in wheat,—there are now nearly 300 : That ploughmen had ordinarily L. 14 Sterling a-year,—now they have from L. 23 to L. 25. The rent is stated to have been L. 1400,—it is now about double that sum ; and during the high war prices it was considerably more.

Great attention has long been applied to that first of agricultural improvements—draining ; and much money has been expended on it. Still, owing to the difficulty of the soil, many farms were but imperfectly drained. The new system, however, called the frequent drain system or furrow draining, bids fair to bring this operation to perfection, and to alter almost entirely the character of many farms. This system is carried on at present with great spirit in this neighbourhood. It must be a great addition to the durability of these drains, when the tiles are covered with gravel, or small stones, which is not always done.

Drawn up November 1836. Revised November 1838.

PARISH OF TRANENT.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN HENDERSON, A. M. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE etymology of the word Tranent, or, as it was anciently written, Travernent, is involved in some obscurity; but we must reject, as altogether fanciful, its derivation from the circumstance of a party of Danes having landed on the opposite coast of Fife, and being repulsed by the natives, who exultingly exclaimed, Tranent! Tranent! “Let them swim over.” Neither are there any better grounds for attributing it to a corruption of the word “Trinity.” The explanation of Chalmers* is much more satisfactory, that it took its name from its natural situation. The oldest part of the village stood along the edge of a ravine, once finely wooded, and in the ancient British language, *Trev-er-nent* is said to signify a village on a ravine or river, which is exactly descriptive of its site,—the ravine or glen, through which a small stream runs, being immediately to the west of the oldest houses.

Boundaries and Extent.—The parish is bounded on the north, by the Frith of Forth; on the east, by the parishes of Gladsmuir and Pencaitland; on the south, by Ormiston and Cranstoun; and on the west, by Inveresk and Prestonpans. Its greatest length from north-east to south-west is about 5 miles, and its extreme breadth, 3 miles. Its area is about 9 square miles, or 5464 acres, 1 rood, 16 falls imperial. Its former extent was much greater, as will be noticed under its Civil History.

Topographical Appearance.—The surface of the ground slopes gradually, with gentle undulations from the southern boundary of the parish, towards the sea;—its greatest elevation being about 320 feet above the level of the Firth of Forth. The parish is

* Caledonia, Vol. ii. p. 523.

not now well wooded, the fine trees which formerly existed at the Palace of Seton, the towers of Elphingstone and Falside, and the Heugh of Tranent, having in a great measure fallen to decay, or been cut down. The trees of St Germans are now in the best preservation of any in the parish, and some of them of considerable age. The extent of coast little exceeds 2 miles; at Cockenzie, it is guarded by a dike of greenstone, running nearly east and west, and the sea recedes but a short distance from the rocks. To the east of Portseton, there is another whinstone dike, more to the north, running nearly in the same direction, and within it, there is a considerable extent of flat sand, dry at low water, while the beach contains a beautiful mixture of fine sand and sea shells.

Hydrography.—There is no river in this parish, and only two or three trifling rivulets; the greatest discharge of water into the sea is from the coal level, commenced by the Earls of Winton in the seventeenth century, and subsequently carried forward, nearly two miles further, into the basin of the Tranent coal-field, by the Messrs Cadells; but its extension does not seem to have materially increased the quantity of water. Several mills are thus driven, which have the peculiar advantage that no drought during summer makes any perceptible difference in the volume of the water, and from its high temperature, it is not subject to be frozen in winter.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The parish of Tranent, through its whole extent, contains the usual coal measures, or the ordinary strata connected with the coal formation, but the regularity of the stratification is dislocated and intersected by trap or whinstone dikes, by clay dikes, and other disturbing causes, denominated “troubles” by the colliers.

As in many other places, the strata seem to have been originally deposited in the form of a basin, and afterwards to have been altered by the unexplained convulsions which have taken place in our globe. The principal basin at present existing has its lowest point or trough a little to the west of the farm-house of Carlawerock, nearly a mile south of the village of Tranent; from this the coal seams rise in all directions, and with a much more rapid inclination as they approach towards the verge of the basin, which may be about half a mile in some places, and in others a mile from the centre point, in regard to the uppermost seam, and at greater distances as to the others. Beyond this basin, to the west, north, and east, there are other seams of coal found, but whether they

are the continuation of seams lower than those worked at Carlawerock, or the same seams cast down and altered, has not been exactly ascertained. At Longniddry Dean, two coal seams crop out, dipping north-west, which looks as if they were connected with the principal basin, and the limestone generally found below the coal formation does not appear till beyond the boundary of this parish.

The first of the trap dikes intersecting the strata occurs to the north of Portseton; the second at Cockenzie, about 20 yards broad, where it forms a barrier against the sea, and runs from north-west to south-east; the third trap dike, not quite so broad, lies about half a mile further south, running nearly east and west from the Garleton Hills to Seton Castle and Prestongrange Harbour, which it may probably connect with the masses of trap at Arthur's Seat, Hawkhill, and Inchkeith. About half a mile to the south of the second trap dike, there is a broad clay dike, about 140 feet in width, which throws the strata about 16 fathoms up to the south. The ground here rises more rapidly, and most of the upper seams crop out. From this line they descend to form the basin at Carlawerock. There are, besides, many dikes and faults, especially about Kingslaw, which it would be tedious and out of place to narrate.

Such being a general description of the geological structure of the parish, we may now give a more minute account of the coal measures or strata themselves at Carlawerock, the centre of the basin.

The upper or main coal seam, between 6 and 9 feet thick, is of good quality, though rather soft, and is about 37 fathoms or 222 feet from the surface, at the lowest point in the basin. The second seam, which is improperly termed the splint coal seam, is about 5 feet thick, and varies from 8 to 14 fathoms below the main coal seam. The third seam, or 3 feet-coal, is from 5 to 8 fathoms below the second seam, but has only been worked near the crop, where it approaches the surface. The fourth seam, or 4 feet coal, is still lower, being between 3 and 4 fathoms below the third seam, and is reputed to be of excellent quality; but as it has not been wrought, except near the crop, where the quality is inferior, its merits cannot be said to be ascertained. About 16 fathoms below the 4 feet coal, there is also a 5 feet coal, but it has not been worked in the parish, except at the crop to a small extent. Below these, in the Carlawerock basin, it is probable that other seams may exist at a greater depth, but they have never hitherto been explored. A thin seam of parrot

or cannel-coal, so much esteemed for gas-works, has lately been found, and is now worked in the lands of Falside : it is supposed to be the seam of coal next to the limestone.

The geologist is referred for farther and more scientific information to a very able paper, "on the Mid-Lothian and East-Lothian coal-fields," by David Milne, Esq. recently published in the 14th Vol. Part I. of the Transactions of the Royal Society of Edinburgh,—where the learned author has, with admirable industry, brought together a great mass of facts, furnished by practical men, and illustrates the important conclusions he has drawn from them by valuable plans and sections.

From the seams of coal cropping out, or coming to the surface, in many places round Tranent, there can be no doubt that this invaluable mineral must have been known to the earliest inhabitants of the district, and we are therefore not surprised to find written evidence of coal having been wrought here as early as in any other place. Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, Vol. ii. p. 400, notices a grant by Seyer de Quincy, Lord of the manor of Tranent, to the monks of Newbattle, about the year 1202, of a coal-pit and quarry on their lands of Preston, which then formed part of the parish of Tranent, and, from the cropping out of the seams of coal, must probably have been situated in part of the present parish of Tranent. From the thirteenth century downwards, we have abundant evidence from numerous charters, of the working of coal in the neighbourhood of Tranent, and in the middle of the sixteenth century, (1547), the workings seem to have extended a considerable distance underground, as Patten, the graphic narrator of Protector Somerset's invasion of Scotland, gives an account of many inhabitants of the district taking refuge in the coal-pits a few days before the disastrous battle of Pinkie. The English, finding it impossible to dislodge them, closed up the pits which gave air to the workings, and, placing fires at the entrance, endeavoured either to drive them out by other apertures, or to suffocate the miserable creatures within; and the narrator coolly remarks, "forasmuch as we found not that they dyd the tone, we thought it for certain thei wear sure of the toother : wee had doon that we came for, and so lefte them."*

At this period, the mode of relieving the coal workings from water, was by what was called "damming and laving," that is, having followed the seam of coal as far as they could for water,

* The Expedition into Scotlande of Edward Duke of Somerset, by W. Patten, Londoner, page 44. Published in *Fragments of Scottish History*.

they made a dam or bank, rising above the level of the orifice, or of a ditch cut from it; and by laving the water over this bank, it gradually escaped from the mouth of the working. A series of these dams could be made one after another, and thus the workings, with considerable labour, freed from water; but this mode must have been very hazardous, as any injury to a dam would allow the water to flow back on the lower workings, while no considerable growth of water could be overcome.

In the course of time, a much more efficient mode of draining coal-works by day-levels was introduced; but we are ignorant of the precise date at which they were commenced. The day-level is a mine carried forward from the bed of a stream, or the lowest ground that can be found, directly into the heart of the strata, without following the seams of coal. This mine, of course, can be made the means of draining all the coal strata lying above it, and if the "level" or water-course be kept clear, effectually relieves the workings from water.

The family of Seyton having obtained a grant of the lands of Tranent from Robert the Bruce, for their attachment to his cause, seem to have devoted much attention to their coal-workings; and from the preface to "Satan's Invisible World," by Sinelair, we learn, that the Earl of Winton of that day had run free levels, for several miles below ground, to drain his coal-works, and had excited the admiration of the writer, by "cutting impregnable rocks with more difficulty than Hannibal cutted the Alps," by "deep pits and air-holes" and "floods of water running through the labyrinths for several miles."

This level, commenced probably about the middle of the seventeenth century, still assists in draining the coal, but it has been extended nearly two miles further than the Earls of Winton carried it, and now reaches the heart of the coal-field. Since the application of the power of steam, this mode of draining coal-works has of course been rendered less essential; but still, where the inclination of the surface admits, it is the most convenient mode of relieving the strata above it, and for those below, it is only required to raise the water to the mine in place of to the surface. In addition to the main level, which runs in a southerly direction, there were two other levels made in former times, the Heugh level, a branch of the main level, and the Bankton level, which discharges, at the surface, near the mansion-house of Bankton.

The only other improvement in regard to coal-works which it is

incumbent on us to notice, is in the carriage of the coal. In older times, the coals were almost invariably carried on horseback, as the state of the roads afforded little facility to wheeled carriages. In 1719, after the attainder of the Earl of Winton, the York-Buildings Company of London purchased many of the forfeited estates, and they seem to have begun without delay to introduce some of the southern improvements. A tram-road or wooden waggon way was formed from their coal-works near Tranent to the harbour of Port Seton, in the year 1722, by which the coals were conveyed to the salt-pans and shipping : this seems to have been the first approximation to the principle of railways, which in our own day are effecting such changes on the country, as well as on the conveyance of passengers and goods. This old wooden waggon way, (each waggon being drawn by one horse, and conveying two tons of coal,) was continued till 1815, when an iron railway was substituted in its place by the Messrs Cadells.

The mode of raising coals where the seam lay within a few fathoms of the surface, was formerly by means of women called "bearers," who carried about $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. on their backs, and ascended the pit by a bad wooden stair. In the deeper pits, the coals were carried to the bottom of the shaft by women, and then raised in wooden tubs by means of a "*gin*" moved by horses. This mode of raising the coal still continues, except where a *gig* or small steam engine is substituted, which performs the work with more regularity and speed ; below ground also, where the inclination of the coal seam admits of it, the coals are now frequently drawn by horses on iron railways, or pushed forwards by men or boys, who are called "putters."

In the coal-workings of this parish, there is fortunately no fire damp, which causes such dreadful accidents. Foul air often occurs in certain states of the atmosphere, or where the ventilation is incomplete ; but this never requires the precaution of Sir Humphry Davy's lamp, and the extinction of the light, with oppression on the lungs, are sufficient warnings for the miner to retire.

In surveying the coal-field in the parish of Tranent, it is difficult to imagine that it has been so long wrought,—so large a quantity taken from it, and still so much of the principal seams remaining. In the Cess-roll of the county of Haddington for the year 1653, the Earl of Winton's yearly land rent in the parish of Tranent is estimated at L.11,591, 13s. 4d., while his casual rent, which must have been derived in a great measure from coal, is rat-

ed so high as L. 3333, 6s. 8d. At the time of the purchase of the Winton estates in 1719 by the York-Buildings Company, the coal and salt-works yielded above L. 1000 per annum. According to the former Statistical Account of the parish, the produce of Elphingstone Colliery in 1790, was 6053 tons, 15 cwt.; in 1791, it was 8348 tons, 10 cwt. At present, the produce of the different coal-works of Tranent, Elphingstone, Birsley, and St Germans, must be about 60,000 tons annually, a large proportion of which is shipped at the new harbour at Cockenzie, and a considerable quantity exported to foreign parts.

Besides the consumption of coal for ordinary purposes, a number of persons have long been employed in this parish, in converting coal into cinders or coke for malting or drying grain. The process of making cinders, as they are here called, is first to form a large fire, and when the mass is completely ignited, and the smoke driven off, the fire is then covered up and extinguished, leaving the purified cinders in a fit state for the maltster. An improved mode has lately been adopted in other parts of the country for forming coke, by burning the coal in small furnaces where a small portion of air is admitted, and the mass is more completely fused; but this improvement has not been hitherto adopted in this parish.

From what is above stated of the coal measures existing throughout the parish, it will be inferred, that freestone is generally to be found at a moderate depth. In several places, quarries producing sandstone well suited for building have been opened, though the quality near the surface is rather soft.

The whinstone or trap dike, intersecting the parish about half a mile from the sea, affords excellent stone for the roads, and has been wrought in various places, but it is much inferior for that purpose to the whinstone obtained from the Garleton Hills, which, on being pulverized, becomes a dry sand, while the Tranent whinstone becomes mud. This superiority has induced those having the charge of the great post-road to bring the materials for its repair from a quarry behind Huntingdon, six miles to the eastward, although the carriage of it is thus greatly lengthened.

Hitherto, no other mineral strata or veins have been discovered. Near the trap dike at Cockenzie, some faint traces of ironstone are visible, but of no value. When excavating the sandstone to form the new harbour at Cockenzie, organic remains of fossil trees were found, and at Tranent there are abundant specimens of plants

of the Fern tribe, in perfect preservation, in the roof of the coal seams, nearly in contact with the sandstone.

Soil.—There is much diversity of soil in this parish, from the sandy links, which extend along the sea coast, to the old moor of Tranent, part of which was only reclaimed thirty years ago. In the immediate neighbourhood of the sea, the land is very light and sandy, though much of it has been greatly improved of late years. Immediately to the south of the Links, is a belt of excellent land of loamy quality, about half a mile broad; there then intervenes, from Bankton to Rigganhead, a morass from 15 to 20 feet deep to the subsoil, but of late years this has been much improved. Round the village of Tranent, the land is of rich loamy quality, with the exception of the old moor to the east of the town, which is clayey, but has of late been greatly improved by draining. In the upper districts of the parish, towards Elphingstone and Falside, the land is of good quality. There is no gravelly soil in the parish.

• *Zoology.*—There are no rare animals in the parish, nor is it remarkable for breeding any species of cattle of peculiar quality, the attention of the farmers having been chiefly given to the raising of wheat and other grain.

A quantity of fish is brought into the village of Cockenzie from the Frith of Forth as well as the German Ocean; but the neighbouring coast is chiefly remarkable for the fineness of the oysters, as well as the crabs and lobsters, which are caught in great abundance during the season; and it is a curious fact, that two years ago an untouched bed of oysters was discovered near Portseton, which, for a considerable time, yielded that shell-fish of a size and quality rarely obtained.

The ordinary fish caught by the villagers are, the cod, haddock, flounder, and whiting, not unfrequently the sole and the mackerel, and more rarely the skate, halibut, &c.

Close to the coast, the prevailing west winds, from the sea and the sandy soil, prevent the growth of trees; but at a short distance, where the soil becomes deeper, all kinds of forest trees appear to thrive remarkably well, except the fir-tribe. The soil seems most congenial to the plane, the elm, and the oak.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The parish of Tranent was formerly of much greater extent, embracing the whole of the present parish of Prestonpans, as well as considerable parts of the parishes of Pencaitland and Gladsmuir, and the old parish of Seton was annexed to it after the Reforma-

tion. The parish of Prestonpans was disjoined from it in 1606, on a new church being built by Mr John Davidson, a very eminent person, then minister of the district: and Hamilton of Preston provided the glebe. *

The lands of Winton were also disjoined from the parish of Tranent in 1649, but in 1681 they were reunited to Tranent, and in 1715, after the forfeiture of the Winton family, they were finally annexed to Pencaitland. †

In 1695, the north-east part of the parish of Tranent was annexed to the new parish of Gladsmuir, which was formed from portions of the parishes of Aberlady, Haddington, and Tranent.

Till the commencement of last century, the lands of this parish were almost entirely in the possession of one or two distinguished families.

The most ancient family in this district seems to have been that of Saytun or Seton, who obtained a charter of lands in East Lothian from David I. who began his reign in 1124. In the reign of William the Lion, who ascended the throne in 1165, they obtained a charter of the lands of Seton, Winton, and Winchburgh.

Another distinguished nobleman of this period was Robert de Quincy, a Northamptonshire baron, who acquired the extensive manor of Tranent from William the Lion, and was made his Justiciary. His large estates afterwards came into the possession of his grand-daughters, three co-heiresses, and their husbands having espoused the cause of Edward II., their lands were forfeited on the success of Robert the Bruce, who conferred them on his nephew, Alexander de Seton. This family became one of the most influential and opulent in Scotland, and were connected by marriage with all the principal families in the country. The families of Gordon and Eglinton were in fact Setons, the heiresses of these houses having married younger sons of the Seton family. They became Lords Seton in the reign of James I., and in 1600 were elevated to the rank of Earls of Wintoun. They were always opposed to the Reformation, and, after possessing property in the parish of Tranent for 600 years, they were deprived of it by forfeiture in 1715, from their devoted attachment to the Stuart family. At this period, the Winton estates, along with many of the other forfeited lands, were purchased by the York-Buildings Company, and after their bankruptcy were sold in 1779, when they were acquired by various individuals.

* Chalmers' Caledonia, ii. 525, and Thomson's Act. Parl. 18 Parl. Jas. VI.

† Ibid. ii. 529, and Thomson's Act. Parl.

The lands of Elphinstone were held feu of the Winton family, and in the fifteenth century belonged to the family of Johnstone. About the middle of the sixteenth century, they were acquired by the Primroses of Carrington, ancestors of the Earls of Rosebery, and are now possessed by Mr Callander and Mr Elphinstone.

Land-owners.—The principal land-owners, according to their valuations in the parish at present, are Mr Cadell of Tranent; the Earl of Wemyss; Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart; Mr Burn Callander; Mr Hunter; Mr Elphinstone; Colonel Macdowall; Mr Anderson of St Germain's, and Mr Fowler.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers, of late years, have been very regularly kept, and exist from 1615: but the first fifty years are very imperfect; and from 1688 to 1720, the registers are missing, and appear to have been lent and not returned.

Antiquities.—There are no very remarkable antiquities in this parish. A Druidical circle of stones formerly existed on the west side of Longniddry Dean, near the sea; but in the course of making some agricultural improvements it was unceremoniously destroyed.

The old collegiate church of Seton is the finest monument of antiquity in the parish, and is an interesting specimen of Gothic architecture, built in good taste. The date of the oldest part is uncertain, but it must have been previous to the year 1390, for in the beginning of the reign of Robert III. Catherine Sinclair of Hermanston, the widow of Lord William Seton, “biggit ane yle on the south syd of the paroche kirk of Seytoun of fine astler; pendit and theiket it wyth stane, wyth ane sepulture thairin quhair sche lyis, and foundit ane preist to serve thair perpetuallie.”* Considerable additions were subsequently made to this church by the Seton family, many of whom expended large sums in decorating the mausoleum of their race, and there still exist several monuments, which appear at one time to have been very richly ornamented. In 1544, the church was much destroyed by the English, during the invasion of the Earl of Hertford, who “tuk away the bellis and organis, and other tursable (moveable) thingis, and pat thame in thair schippis, and brint the tymber-wark within the said kirk.”† It afterwards suffered severely in succeeding revolutions; but it is pleasing to find that this interesting and beautiful remain is now

* Maitland's History of the House of Seytoun, continued by Viscount Kingston, printed by the Bannatyne Club, p. 29.

† Ibid. p. 43.

carefully preserved by the present proprietor, the Earl of Wemyss.

The old Palace of Seton, with its fine gardens and terrace-walks, which the monarchs of Scotland and their court in former times delighted to visit, are now no more, the remains of the former having been pulled down by a late proprietor, to build a modern and not very elegant mansion, while the policy and walks have suffered the necessary consequence of being detached from the abode of luxury and wealth. When King James VI. was on his way to England to take possession of the throne on the 4th April 1603, on his train approaching Seton, he met the funeral of the first Earl of Winton, one of the most faithful adherents of his unfortunate mother; the King halted his retinue, and sat down on the south-west turret at the corner of the garden, which is still quite entire, and adjoining the present road, till the funeral of this old supporter of his family moved past.

The old tower or fortalice of Falsyde is also of considerable antiquity. It was formerly in the possession of the Winton family, and probably given off to a junior branch. It offered some resistance to the army of Protector Somerset on the morning of the battle of Pinky in 1547, and was then burnt; but the strength of the mason-work, the tower being arched at the first story, as well as on the top of the building, prevented entire destruction. Additions of a later date, but of a less massive structure, appear subsequently to have been made, and, as very frequently happened, the family of Fawside of that ilk seem to have removed to a more modern mansion when peaceable times arrived, at the union of the crowns,—as there now exists in the immediate vicinity of the old castle, a house with the initials L. F., L. L. above one of the windows, and the date 1618. In the stair of the oldest part of the castle, is a curious place of concealment, and the old dovecot at a short distance has another small recess, with an ancient grated door. The view of the Frith of Forth and the waving line of sea coast from this spot, with the rich and varied fields of Mid-Lothian stretched beneath, is perhaps one of the finest that can be found in the vicinity.

This parish has been the scene of some interesting historical events in former times. Between Tranent and Falsyde, a desperate engagement took place with the Scotch and English cavalry, the day before the battle of Pinky in 1547, when the Scots were overpowered, and lost 1800 men, which probably contributed in no slight degree to the disastrous result on the next day, the

10th of September, when 14,000 Scots are said by Patten to have been slain in the flight.

The scene of the battle of Preston on 21st September 1745 lies about half a mile to the north of the church of Tranent. The King's army, amounting to about 3000, was drawn up nearly parallel to, and a little to the east of the present line of railway from the coal-pits to Cockenzie. The excellent Colonel Gardiner was stationed with his cavalry on the right flank, and was killed when endeavouring to rally a small body of infantry near the west end of the village now called Meadow Mill, but which was not in existence at the period of the battle. Colonel Gardiner thus met an honourable death within a quarter of a mile of Bankton, his own residence. His servant was unable to convey him thither, as the flight was in that direction; but it is said, having borrowed clothes from the miller at the neighbouring mill, he conveyed his dying master to the manse at Tranent, where he soon after expired, and was buried in the west end of the Church; but no tablet marks the grave of this gallant soldier and admirable Christian.

The slain were buried near a farm-house called Thorntree Mains, erected since the battle; and towards the close of last century, in making some drains to the north-east of the farm-steading, the workmen came upon the bodies, when the clothes were said to be so entire, that they could distinguish between the royalists and the rebels. The military chest of the royal army was found at the house of Cockenzie, and was there divided by the unfortunate Charles Stuart.

A few coins, of the reigns of James V. and Mary, were discovered in 1828, while making improvements on the post road to the west of Tranent, and might probably have been concealed there about the time of the battle of Pinkie in 1547. One or two cannon balls have also been found in the fields near Cockenzie, which, in all likelihood, were among the few that were discharged at the disastrous battle of Preston.

There is a massive square tower at Elphingstone, said to have been built about the year 1300, and a modern house was added to it in 1600, which is still inhabited, and was formerly surrounded by very fine trees, but they are now all cut down.

The only mansion-house in the parish, inhabited by a proprietor, is St Germans, the seat of David Anderson, Esq. which had formerly been an establishment of the Knights Templars, but after

their suppression was bestowed by James IV. on the King's College of Aberdeen.

III.—POPULATION.

Until the middle of last century, the greater part of the population of this parish, consisting of colliers and salters, were little better than slaves, being bound to their works for life, and after having engaged in them after the years of puberty, were not permitted to leave their employment, unless the trade was given up. This cruel practice was happily done away in 1775, but the evil effects of it were not so easily overcome. A class thus nurtured in bondage, enjoying little intercourse with others, and their religious instruction not much attended to, could hardly have been expected to keep pace with the civilization of the country. The vice of drunkenness spread its pernicious influence very widely among them, and though families frequently make about L. 2 per week, they rarely lay by any of their wages, and have not their dwelling-houses so comfortably furnished as the farm-servants and labourers, who do not earn half the amount.

Abstract of the population of the parish of Tranent at 25th June 1821 and 1831 :—

	1821.	1831.
Number of families,	786	816
employed in agriculture,	180	176
in trade,	467	598
all others,	139	42
houses inhabited,	614	740
building,	2	3
uninhabited,	16	52
males,	1676	1765
females,	1736	1855
	3412	3620

The number of seamen at Davis' Straits, not included in the census of 1831, was 30, making the net population of the parish 3650.

Ages in June 1831.

	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.
Under 5,	283	255	From 40 to 50,	145	171
From 5 to 10,	266	218	50 to 60,	110	140
10 to 15,	203	174	60 to 70,	91	127
15 to 20,	151	165	70 to 80,	36	45
20 to 30,	210	229	80 to 90,	12	13
30 to 40,	166	200	90 to 100,	3	0

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards is about 15,—of whom there are 2 having rentals between L. 2000 and L. 3000 per annum ; 2 between L. 1500 and L. 2000 ; 4 between L. 500 and L. 1000 ; 5 between L. 100 and L. 500 ; and 2 between L. 50 and L. 100.

Character and Habits of the People.—Among a population of colliers, it cannot be expected that the habits of the people should be cleanly; and the injurious practice of women working in the pits as bearers, (now happily on the decline with the married females,) tends to render the houses of colliers most uncomfortable on their return from their labours, and to foster many evils which a neat cleanly home would go far to lessen. Colliers, from their high wages, generally partake of the best butcher-meat, and may be said to live well, but unfortunately they indulge very freely in ardent spirits,—that bane of our working population.

From the above remarks, it is evident that the mass of the people cannot be said to be intellectual, moral, or religious. There are, however, several marked exceptions; and it is to be hoped, that the present exertions making for the diffusion of religious knowledge in the parish may, by the blessing of God, have a favourable effect on the character of the inhabitants.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The whole parish is cultivated or occasionally in tillage, with the exception of about 50 acres of links along the sea-shore,—which could not be added profitably to the cultivated land; and with the exception also of about 100 imperial acres under wood, chiefly about the mansion-houses of Seton and St Germans. A large common in the neighbourhood of Tranent was finally divided and improved in 1804, and has since been under cultivation.

Rent.—The average rent of land to the north of the village of Tranent may be said to be from L. 3, 10s., to L. 4 per Scots acre, and to the south of Tranent, where it is poorer, about L. 1, 10s., to L. 2 per Scots acre, or one-fifth less than each of these sums per imperial acre. The grazing of an ox may be reckoned at L. 6 per half-year.

The valued rent of the parish in the county books is L. 10,781, 9s. 1d. Scots, and the present real rent may be nearly L. 12,000, exclusive of minerals, which may yield about L. 4000.

Wages.—The rate of wages is from 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d. per day for farm-servants, and from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. for artisans.

Husbandry.—The general character of the husbandry, particularly in the lower parts of the parish, and in the better parts of the higher districts, has been of the most approved and modern kind. All kinds of grain have been grown; but perhaps the culture of wheat has been carried to too great an extent generally through the county.

There is a considerable difference in climate between the lower and upper parts of the parish,—the crops being a week or ten days earlier in the land to the north of Tranent than they are to the south, which is above 200 feet higher. Draining has been generally practised with much advantage, and of late years great benefit has arisen from the introduction of tile-draining. As an instance of the effect of draining, the land, which in 1745 separated the two armies, was described as an impassable morass, but it now bears good crops along its whole extent. Tile-draining is still in the act of being vigorously carried on, and experience every year proves more strongly the advantages to be derived from it.

The ordinary duration of leases is for the period of nineteen years, and the stipulations are generally of an equitable nature between landlord and tenant.

The state of the farm-buildings is generally good, and the parish is, upon the whole, well enclosed with hedges and ditches, though this important part of agriculture might with advantage admit of more extension.

The principal improvement which has been made since the last Statistical Account, is the cultivation of all the arable part of the links near the sea, and the whole of Tranent moor. By this means, above 300 Scots acres have been brought under culture and enclosed.

Quarries and Mines.—There are several sandstone quarries in the parish adapted for building, though too soft to bear long exposure to the atmosphere without injury. The trap dikes also, described under “Mineralogy,” afford good materials for the roads.

The extensive coal mines of the parish have already been pretty fully described under Mineralogy. It is only necessary to add, that about 300 males, 100 females and children, are generally employed at them.

The mode of working the coal strata is that usually adopted, namely, “stoop and room,” or a sufficient number of pillars of coal left to support the roof. Few horses have as yet been used, the baskets of coals being pushed by men along iron railways below ground, to the bottom of the pit, where they are raised by a horse gin or steam power. Most of the modern improvements in mining have been introduced, and of late years some of the pits have been “tubbed,” or cased round with cast iron segments which form a cylinder. The operation is performed thus: A “wedging crib” or circle formed of pieces of oak is laid upon the hard stratum, the

cast iron segments are then carefully placed on it, and a thin piece of fir-wood is put betwixt every joint. After all the segments required are built round the sides of the pit, and the whole kept down by a building of stone above, wedges are driven into the joints of the segments until the whole is made perfectly water tight; the water being thus prevented from getting out of the porous strata and escaping down the pit. In former times, this was attained more rudely by casing the pit with wood; behind which, fine clay was carefully puddled.

From the numerous old coal pits in the western parts of the parish, and the breadth and number of the roads in that direction, it is probable that the greater part of the supply of coals for Edinburgh, was derived from this quarter in former times.

Fisheries.—The inhabitants of the villages of Cockenzie and Portseton, amounting to about 700, are almost wholly engaged in fishing. Their boats are all open, without any deck, but of the finest construction, and the largest class: they are suited for the more distant fishings, and are calculated to stand a very heavy sea.

During the winter, the fishermen are employed for the supply of the Edinburgh and Glasgow markets, in dredging oysters opposite their village, and in catching cod, whittings, flounders, &c. either within the Frith of Forth, or sometimes on the Marr, a bank thirty miles to the east of St Abb's Head.

In spring, a number of the men go to the whale-fishing in the ships from the Frith of Forth, and the north of England; in which employment, many of them have distinguished themselves as the most dexterous harpooneers. A few years ago, several of the men endured all the rigors of a Polar winter, the ships having been encircled with ice in Baffin's Bay. Their sufferings were dreadful, but the vessels were providentially drifted along many hundred miles of coast to the open sea,—where the sailors had the joy of meeting the ships which were sent out early in the season, in order to render them assistance; and it is remarkable that, so far from the sufferings of their friends having the effect of deterring any from this dangerous employment, a young man volunteered to go in one of the earliest vessels to search for his relatives, and he had the inexpressible delight of being in the first boat that boarded the ship in which were his father and others connected with him. The conduct of the Cockenzie sailors during their long night of almost hopeless darkness, was most praiseworthy: they devoted a portion of

each day to religious exercises, and awaited with calm resignation the will of Providence.

In summer, the fishermen who have not gone to the whale-fishing, proceed to Caithness in their large boats for the herring fishery, where they sell the produce of their labours to the curers. In autumn, they are again engaged in dredging oysters, and taking white fish and herrings when they appear at the mouth of the firth.

There are no rents payable for the deep sea fishings, and the dues exigible for the oyster scalps are not regularly levied.

The energy and enterprise of the fishermen, with no capital but their boats, (which may have descended to them from their fathers, but stand in need of constant repairs and renewals,) are the sole means of maintaining the fisheries.

Manufactures.—The chief manufacture in the parish is that of salt, which has been carried on for a long period,—12 salt-pans having been built about 1630, by George third Earl of Winton. The mode of making the salt is simply, by evaporating by means of heat the aqueous particles of the sea, in oblong iron pans, 18 feet long by 10 feet broad, and 2 feet deep. The sea water is raised into the pans by buckets, swung on a suspended pole; and the coal used is of the small description, unfit for most other purposes.

A man and a boy are employed in each of the six salt-pans now in operation; the wages of the former being according to the quantity of salt produced, or about 18s. per week, and of the latter 8s. per week. The female members of the family also assist in taking the salt out of the pans, and carrying it to the “girnels” or stores.

Of late, a steam engine has been erected at Cockenzie for grinding bones and rape cakes, brought chiefly from Germany, to be used in agriculture, which have been found peculiarly beneficial as a manure for turnips and other crops.

In Portseton, also, another steam engine has lately been erected for bruising linseed and expressing oil from it. The residue is formed into cakes for feeding cattle.

These employments afford a fair remuneration to the workmen, and do not seem prejudicial either to health or morals.

Navigation.—The number of boats belonging to the fishermen amounts to 31, of which 10 are of about 16 tons burden, and 21 of 7 tons.

There are two vessels belonging to the new harbour at Cock-

enzie, one of 120, the other of 100 tons burden; they are employed in the coasting and foreign trade.

The number of vessels entering the present harbour of the Messrs Cadells during the year, is from 250 to 300, and the tonnage about 20,000 tons. Of this, about one-sixth is from foreign ports.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest market-towns are Haddington and Dalkeith, each about seven miles from Tranent. The greater part, however, of the grain from the parish goes to Edinburgh market, ten miles distant.

Villages.—The villages in the parish are,—Tranent, containing upwards of 1780 inhabitants;—Cockenzie and Portseton, 757; Elphingston, 250; Meadowmill, 150,—total, about 2937 in the villages.

Means of Communication.—The means of communication to the capital are excellent, the great post road to Edinburgh passing through the parish for three miles. The other lines of turnpike roads, extending to six miles, have of late been much improved, by being placed under the charge of surveyors. The total length of the turnpike roads in the parish extends to nine miles. The parish roads, supported by statute labour, are far from being in an equally good state of repair. The funds amount to the small sum of L. 160 per annum, of which L. 36, 10s. is drawn by the turnpike roads, and the balance only of L. 123, 10s. is left for expenses and the support of the parish roads, extending in length to about fifteen miles, over which many heavy carriages pass.

There is a regular post to and from Edinburgh twice a-day, also a twopenny post to Haddington, which is a recent and a great convenience.

The public carriages on the post-road are very numerous, being six passing Tranent each day to Edinburgh, including the Berwick mail,—and the like number out of Edinburgh. There is also a daily coach from North Berwick, passing Cockenzie, which carries the letters to and from Prestonpans.

There are no public canals or railroads at present in the parish, but the proposed line of the Great North British railroad, to communicate by Berwick, Newcastle, and Durham with the great English lines, will pass through the centre of the parish, a little to the north of the Meadowmill. A private iron railway, as already noticed, has been made by the Messrs Cadells, from Cockenzie to their coal-

works on the south side of Tranent, the length being about three miles.

A harbour was erected by the same gentlemen in 1835, at a natural basin on the west side of the village of Cockenzie, for the purpose of shipping coal. The cost amounted to about L. 6000, and the work was done in the most substantial manner, from a plan by Mr Robert Stevenson, civil-engineer. This harbour has 16 feet depth of water in spring tides, and 10 in neap tides; it is easy of access, and affords complete shelter to vessels; while, during stormy weather, it is most advantageous to the fishermen, who are thus enabled to run for a place of safety, instead of the exposed beach, formerly their only refuge.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church has been rebuilt since the last Statistical Account, a new one having been erected in 1800. The situation is sufficiently convenient for the greater part of the population, the distance from the extremities of the parish being at no place more than two miles and a-half. But the sittings having been divided amongst the heritors according to their valued rents, the great proportion of the inhabitants of the villages had no legal right to church accommodation. The only mortifications belonging to the parish are, the interest of L. 100, left by Lord Bankton, and L. 2 from Dr Schaw's Hospital at Preston. The church contains 888 sittings, of which about 20 are free. The manse was built in 1781, but has undergone several additions and repairs. The extent of the glebe is about six acres Scots, with about an acre of moorland: and it may be valued at about L. 4 per Scots acre.

The augmentation granted in 1831 raised the stipend to 18 chalders of victual, but the teinds being exhausted, the amount allocated was 47 bolls, 1 firloft, 3 pecks, 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ lippies of wheat; 81 bolls, 1 firloft, 1 peck, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ lippies of bear; 149 bolls, 1 firloft, 2 pecks, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lippies of oats; L. 59, 16s. 8d. Scots money; which at the fiars prices of that year amounted to L. 349, 6s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. Sterling, being a deficiency of the modified stipend to the extent of L. 21, 17s. 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ d.

In the village of Cockenzie, a new church was, in 1838, completed by private subscription, aided by the General Assembly's Church Extension Committee; by the East Lothian Church Extension Society, and by L. 150 raised by the Rev. A. Forman of Innerwick. It contains 450 sittings, and is built so as to admit of galleries being afterwards added. The total expense of this church was about

L.600. The stipend engaged to be paid to the minister, the Rev. Archibald Lorimer, is L. 80 per annum, secured by a bond granted by several individuals who are interested in the welfare of the district. The seat-rents, if fully let, with the collections, may probably amount to about L. 60 per annum; but this is just one of the cases which so strongly proves the necessity of a national endowment,—the fishermen, unwilling to move from the coast to a church distant from their boats, were so anxious for the ministrations of a clergyman at their own homes, that they subscribed to the utmost extent of their means; they further showed their interest in the Church by delaying to proceed to the northern herring fishery for several days, though the wind was favourable and the season advanced, in order that they might be present at the opening of their place of worship;—and yet with all this anxiety to promote the object, they were utterly unable of themselves to furnish even a small portion of the funds for building the church or supporting the minister.

There is one Dissenting chapel in Tranent, lately rebuilt, belonging to the United Associate Synod. The minister, the Rev. William Parlane, A. M., it is believed, is paid in the usual way from the seat-rents and collections; but the amount of stipend is not known.

The total population of the parish, as formerly mentioned, is 3650; of this number about 2980 are attached to the Established Church, leaving about 640 belonging to all other religious denominations.

The attendance on the parish church is not particularly regular. The average number of communicants at the Established Church is about 600.

Two missionaries, one supported by the friends of the Establishment, the other by the Dissenters, have lately commenced to labour among the population of Tranent, and are well received by the people.

There are two Bible and Missionary Societies, one connected with the Established, the other with the Dissenting congregation.

The church collections for the poor are very small, not exceeding L. 15 per annum, in consequence of the large assessment. The collections for religious and charitable objects may be about L. 13 per annum.

Education.—The total number of schools in the parish is seven; the parochial school in Tranent, the average number attending being 100; a free school at Stiell's Hospital, endowed, attended

by about 140 children; three schools in the village of Tranent, unendowed; one in Elphingstone; and one in Cockenzie, chiefly supported by private subscription.

The ordinary branches, English, writing, and geography, are taught in all the schools; and in the parochial school such pupils as desire it are also instructed in French, Latin, land-measuring and architectural drawing. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is the maximum, L. 34, 6s. 7d., and his school fees generally amount to about L. 80 per annum. The parish schoolmaster is furnished with a good house and garden.

Library.—There is a subscription library in Tranent.

Charitable and other Institutions.—The only hospital in the parish is that endowed by the late George Stiell, smith and builder in Edinburgh, a native of Tranent, who left property yielding about L.900 per annum, for the education of a few boys and girls as inmates, and a free day school, in which are educated about 140 children. The Lord Justice-Clerk, the Sheriff of the county, and the minister of the parish, are governors and directors *ex officiis*; and David Anderson, Esq. of St Germans, and John Gray, Esq. solicitor-at-law, Edinburgh, trustees for life.

This institution has been productive of much benefit to the parish, as the directors have very wisely devoted their chief attention to the free school, their funds not being adequate to the reception of many inmates. The children, in addition to an excellent education at the school, are daily provided with bread and milk, to prevent the necessity of their return home between school hours, or being compelled to bring unequal shares of provision for their support during the day.

A handsome building was erected for this institution in 1821, from a plan by Mr Burn, at the cost of about L. 3000: it is situated a little to the south of the Meadow mill, in a very central position.

Friendly Societies.—There are several Friendly Societies connected with the working population of Tranent and the fishermen of Cockenzie; of these the principal is the Carters' Friendly Society of Tranent, which is in possession of considerable funds, and has been in existence since 1795; but of late years, many of these useful institutions have been broken up, in consequence of their resources failing, they having been founded on erroneous calculations.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is from 100 to 110, and the average sum allotted to each per week from 1s. to 1s. 6d; but the mainte-

nance of two lunatics in asylums adds considerably to the burdens on the parish.

The annual assessment for the poor amounts to about L. 440 or L. 450, of which not above L. 15 is derived from collections at the church door and mortcloths. There are no other funds available for the purpose.

It is to be feared that the disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief, is far from diminishing, and the former wholesome feeling, that it was a degradation to accept of parish aid, or to allow their relations to be a burden on the poor's funds, is fast wearing out among the lower orders.

Prisons.—The nearest prison is that of Haddington, the county town, seven miles distant. There is a district constable stationed at Tranent, who has a temporary lock-up room.

Fairs.—There cannot now be said to exist any fairs in the parish. Cockenzie fair was formerly a place of considerable resort on the first Thursday of November, for the purpose of hiring servants and providing clothes and other articles for the winter; but since the introduction of shops, it has almost entirely dwindled away.

Inns, Alehouses.—There are two inns at Tranent, with respectable accommodation. The number of ale-licenses, including the above inns, granted in the parish, amounts to no less than 40, being twenty-six for the village of Tranent, nine for Cockenzie, two for Portseton, two for Elphingstone, and one for the Meadowmill. The Justices of Peace have, of late years, done all in their power to diminish the number; and it would certainly be a great boon to the country, were the public-houses greatly reduced.*

Fuel.—The supply of coal in every part of the parish, is most abundant and cheap; the quality is rather soft, and does not contain so much bitumen as in many other districts; it is procured in various parts of the parish, and the highest price at the pit-mouth is at present 6s. 8d. per ton.

* The keepers of alehouses at Cockenzie and Portseton have lately, in imitation of those in Prestonpans, entered into a most praiseworthy resolution to abstain from opening their houses on the Sabbath, except to wayfaring people, and have publicly bound themselves to observe this rule.

March 1839.

PARISH OF PRESTONPANS.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. W. BRUCE CUNNINGHAM, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE parish of Prestonpans, (or more properly of Holyrude and of Newbottle, the early superiors of the soil, in this and part of the adjoining parish of Tranent, having erected on the sea shore pans for the manufacture of salt. For a long time, its ecclesiastical name was Salt-Preston. Its present name, however, seems to have been in common use from an early period. The most ancient name appears to have been *Aldhammer* or *Alhammer*; but this was soon lost in that of *Priestistoun*, *Prieststoun*, *Priestoun*, *Prestoun*.

Origin.—The church, a vicarage of the monastery of Holyrude, was, with the town and castle of Preston, burnt by the Earl of Hertford in 1544, and the inhabitants of the united baronies of Preston and Prestonpans had thereafter obtained a right of frequenting the church of Tranent, though there was not any regular union of the two parishes. This continued until the conclusion of that century, when George Hamilton, the proprietor of the united baronies, and his son, Sir John, having bestowed the ground for a church, churchyard, and school, and endowed a minister and schoolmaster, with glebe, garden, and stipends; while, at the same time, a church and school-house had been erected at his own expense by the celebrated Mr John Davidson. Preston was, in 1595, recognized by the ecclesiastical legislature as, *quoad sacra*, an independent parish; and, in 1606, an act of Parliament was obtained by Sir John Hamilton, formally separating it from Tranent, in order to obviate all dispute in regard to its temporal relations. The inscription over the north or principal door of the old church was—

SEDEM DEDIT PRESTONUS.

AEDIFICAVIT DAVIDSONUS.

TEXIT WILLIAMSONUS.

Extent.—Territorially, this parish is one of the smallest in Scotland. It contains about 760 acres, is *quoad civilia* about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, and 1 broad; and is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth; on the east and south, by the parish of Tranent; and on the west, by Inveresk.

Topographical Appearances.—With the exception of one or two inconsiderable knolls to the south-west of the ancient village of Preston, the whole parish is very flat. At the same time, forming in part the southern boundary of a wide bay, it commands a very extensive prospect. There is nothing more truly picturesque in the scenery of the Lowlands than the seaward view from the low sandy beach to the east of the village of Prestonpans. Its bulwark to the sea is composed of reefs of low rocks, in which there are very characteristic proofs of the strong pressure of the waters of the Frith on its southern shore. At low water, in one part of the rocks, several circular holes of almost similar depth, which are obviously the remains of garden-wells, are well fitted to teach the inhabitants the importance of guarding the natural bulwarks of their village against violation.

Geology.—In the shale and sandstone connected with the coal-field in this parish, the common vegetable fossils are very abundant. Branches of trees, with clear impressions of aquatic plants, principally of the *Juncus* tribe, may be found on carefully searching the rubbish thrown out from the borings of new shafts. Indeed, there are few districts in which fossil botany on a limited scale may be more easily studied than the neighbourhood of Prestonpans.

Zoology—Mammalia.—In so small a parish as this, it cannot be thought that the Mammalia will be numerous. The wood-mouse (*Mus sylvaticus*), common shrew (*Sorex araneus*), and the weasel (*Mustela vulgaris*), are common. The stoat (*Mustela erminea*), is sometimes though rarely seen. Several years ago, an albino of the brown rat (*Mus decumanus*), was shot. It is now in the minister's possession, and in colour is yellowish-white. Although its skin is entirely free from signs of disease, its general form and aspect are those commonly connected with internal disorganization. Of the amphibious quadrupeds which visit the waters of the Frith, the *Phoca vitulina*, though now comparatively rare on the southern shore, is the most common in this neighbourhood.

Aves.—The ornithology is rich both in aquatic and land birds. In the Frith, at their varied seasons, the divers, ducks, and gulls, may be seen in great numbers, now floating at the will of the tide

in graceful beauty, and then in all the hurry and din of pursuit after the small fry, shoals of which people the water on the outside of the rocks. Of divers, besides speckled, we have the northern and the merganser (*Mergus serrator*). Of the duck tribe, the most uncommon is the scaup (*Nyroca marila*), of which some beautiful specimens were shot during the severities of last year's storm. All the other species which are met with in the Frith generally occur here also. We have also the shag (*Phalacrocorax graculus*), the cormorant (*Carbo cormoranus*), the oyster-catcher (*Hæmatopus ostralegus*), the curlew (*Numenius arquata*), the whimbrel (*Numenius phæopus*), the redshank, godwit, turnstone, common sanderling, grey, green, golden, and ring-necked plovers, the sea-lark, and the water-rail. In addition to the more common birds of the finch, bunting, and chat species, the stonechat and the mountain finch are sometimes found. A yellow variety of the common bunting is in the possession of Mr George Hay junior, who, by most exemplary diligence, has added great knowledge and taste in the preparation of specimens to no little natural talent for this most charming study. The cuckoo is an annual visitant; the goat-sucker has been observed; the red-tailed and spotted fly-catchers, and the gold-crested wren are not uncommon. Not fewer than one hundred species reside in or visit the parish in their proper seasons. Indeed, it is believed that there is no district in the whole country of so limited a nature, and at the same time so abundantly adorned with the winged tribes.

Ichthyology.—It is to be regretted, that, in some of those districts in which the most ample fields of natural history are presented to the inquirer, the means of exploring them are unfortunately denied to him. Notwithstanding the writer's most anxious exertions to procure the rare specimens (which the sea occasionally yields up to dredge, net, and line,) from the fishermen under his own pastoral superintendence, he has almost entirely failed in attaining his purpose, through their utter apathy to every thing like a love of the "unsaleable" creatures that "swim the ocean's stream."

Perhaps the most rare species in this department of natural science, of which the parish can boast, is the ten-spined stickleback (*Gasterosteus pungitius*), which has been once met with by Dr Richard Parnell, in a small burn to the west of the village. This locality is mentioned by him in his admirable treatise on the

Fishes of the Forth. Of other species there is none known to the compiler of these notes to be deserving of any particular notice.

Botany.—For the study of botany, the parish of Prestonpans affords but a limited field. In the season of flowers, however, we have our own share of that rich store which nature yields. The *Salicornia herbacea* (jointed glasswort) grows on the salt flat near Morrison's Haven. The *Phleum arenarium* (sea-side cat's-tail grass) is found among loose-blowing sand near the sea. The common cowslip, bright as sun-light, occurs in sandy pastures and broken grounds. The common henbane (*Hyoscyamus niger*) of dull sepulchral hue, is found in solitary plants amongst rubbish of sandstone near the eastern boundary of the parish. The following are also to be met with: the knotted hedge-parsley (*Caucalis nodosa*), between Ravensheugh toll-bar and Preston village; the sea-side purple sandwort by the sea to the west of the Cuthill; tetandrous chickweed near the village of Prestonpans; and yellow stone-crop (*Sedum reflexum*) in the village of Preston.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Events.—The only transaction of note connected with the history of this parish, is the battle of Preston, which occurred in 1745, and in which Sir John Cope and the King's forces were ignominiously routed by the Highlanders following the Popish Pretender in his daring attempt upon the British throne. The action is reported to have commenced in the morning twilight of the 21st September, in the narrow road leading from the village of Preston towards Bankton and Tranent. The day was chiefly decided in the neighbouring parish. Whatever glory or disgrace, accordingly, may be associated in the minds of any of the present generation, with an event, the remembrance of which has not altogether perished in this district, the parish of Tranent is entitled to the entire and undivided inheritance.

The only memorial deserving of notice in this account is a tombstone in the eastern wall of the new church-yard, erected to the memory of Mr Stewart of Physgill, an officer in the royal army, who is described as having been inhumanly and barbarously murdered by the Highlanders.

Ancient Family of Preston.—In several works illustrative of the earlier periods of our national history, the Hamiltons of Preston are honourably mentioned in connection with events of imperishable interest and renown. Possessing considerable influence at court and with the country, more than one member of their family

employed it in an active vindication of the vital principles of ecclesiastical and civil freedom. Their valuable friendship was enjoyed by the illustrious confessor, Mr John Davidson, in his times of perplexity and peril. And at a later day, when the same great principles for which he faithfully contended, were again invaded with much indiscretion and little success, Robert, the chivalrous and high-minded brother of Sir William Hamilton of Preston, was distinguished as the commander of the Presbyterians in the successful skirmish at Drumclog, and the disastrous battle of Bothwell Bridge. Sir William Hamilton, the present distinguished Professor of Logic in the University of Edinburgh, is the representative of the family.

Eminent Men.—Mr Davidson, already referred to, was the first incumbent of the parish. He was transported from that of Libberton, in the Presbytery of Edinburgh, in 1596, and continued, with the exception of the time of his imprisonment in Edinburgh Castle, in the active discharge of his pastoral duties until his death, which, (in so far as may be safely inferred from the earliest mention of his successor's name in the session records,) appears to have occurred about the year 1606. He was a man of singular natural endowments, and, in common with many of his contemporaries and friends, was greatly distinguished by his extensive and manifold acquirements. Possessing a large share of that peculiar sagacity which the character of his times was well fitted to unfold and sharpen, and being at the same time of remarkable promptitude and decision of character, he was naturally required to act a prominent part in the transactions of the Reformed Church. To him was committed the arduous, though honourable part of excommunicating the simoniacal and perverse Montgomery, whose affection for filthy lucre appears to have been of more strength and authority, than his regard to the will of the great Head of the Church. In 1596, Mr Davidson was elected to preside at the memorable meeting for humiliation and prayer, which was accompanied with a most remarkable discovery of the divine grace and mercy. It was held in the Little Church of Edinburgh, on Tuesday the 30th of March. A large number both of ministers and private Christians attended. A double portion of the heavenly spirit was imparted to them all. Mr Davidson exhorted them, as he was well qualified to do, in a strain of powerful and touching appeals to their hearts. So great was the success of his ministrations on that occasion, that the whole assembly were moved to

weeping. "Before they dismissed, they solemnly entered into a new league and covenant, holding up their hands with such signs of sincerity as moved all present."

In this parish the name of Mr Davidson must ever be honoured and precious. He was its generous benefactor. His patrimony, which, from the extent of his charities, must have been considerable, was in a great measure devoted to promote the best interests of his parishioners. "At his own expense," as we read in the Life of Andrew Melville, "he built a church and a manse, a school-house and a dwelling-house for the master. The school was erected for teaching the three learned languages, Latin, Greek, and Hebrew." It is greatly to be regretted that the present generation in Prestonpans, equally with the last, have failed to discover the existence of this, in many respects, illustrious seminary; and there is reason to fear that, unless some fortunate concurrence of events shall dispel the mystery which, for much more than a century, has brooded over the fate of an institution by which the youth of our own day would be so greatly blessed, their friends in the parish must still continue those exertions by which they will most happily imitate the noble example set before them, in the generous sacrifices of Mr Davidson. The funds assuredly which have disappeared would have been most serviceable in a parish where there is a most dismal deficiency of education, and an equally deplorable abundance of pauperism.

Alexander Hume, the Grammarian.—The name of this eminent scholar occurs in the first volume of the session records of the parish. He was principal master of Mr Davidson's school, having been appointed to that office in 1606. In the valuable appendix to Dr M'Crie's Life of Andrew Melville, are some interesting notices of his engagements and high reputation. He appears to have been a linguist of no mean order. He was the author of a grammar entitled "*Grammatica nova in usum juventutis Scoticæ ad methodum revocata*," which was appointed to be used in all schools by the Privy-Council and Parliament. After being ten years in Prestonpans, he was removed to Dunbar, where he taught the grammar school.

Antiquities—Village of Preston.—In the traditional tales of the district, this ancient homestead of the monks has a prominent place. Being on the great road of an earlier day, and at any easy distance from Edinburgh, Preston was frequently honoured by the presence of Royalty itself, and if in this instance the voice of

common fame be that of truth, it was too often the scene of more merriment than discretion. It is now not a little remarkable for that species of tranquillity which is closely allied to dulness. Of ancient families, several mansions, venerable either in form or by decay, or both, may still be pointed out. Northfield House, the early proprietors of which, with their descendants, have, in common with their ecclesiastical forerunners, long since passed away, is situate at its western extremity. At no great distance from the south-west turn in the road, is the house in which a branch of the Hamiltons once resided. It is memorable as having been a place of security from the ravages of the plague, in grateful commemoration of which the words "no plague shall near thy dwelling come, no ill shall thee befall," are said to have been inscribed over the principal door-way. To the north of the village stands the venerable tower in which the lords of the soil dwelt for many a day. Its origin is involved in considerable obscurity. Sir Walter Scott, who from his familiar acquaintance with the parish, no less than his zeal for antiquarian learning, must, (if any living man could have known any thing whatever of its earliest history,) have been intelligent and accurate regarding it, supposed it to have been an outpost of the Earls of Home in those remote times when that noble family ruled with princely authority over the whole south-eastern district of Scotland. However that may be, towards the conclusion of the fourteenth century, the castle and estate of Preston came, by marriage, to the family of Hamilton of Fingalton and Ross, the premier cadet of the name. The castle, of which the keep alone remains, was burned in 1544, by the Earl of Hertford; again, in 1650, by Cromwell, after the battle of Dunbar; and it must have been a place of considerable strength and importance. The estate, which was sold prior to the Revolution of 1688, has been long parcelled out.

Preston Cross.—In a garden, on the opposite side of the road from the castle garden wall, is the ancient cross of the village. Annually, in the beginning of July, it is the scene of a little innocent merry-making. As if at the summons of some ancient wizard, in a mood of mirth and gentleness, a numerous company unexpectedly encircle the solitary pillar, and, amidst the agreeable warmth of a summer noon, interchange many pleasant and friendly salutations, in commemoration, doubtless, of important transactions which happened long ago. Their accustomed rites being duly performed, the reign of silence is again allowed to resume its

sway around that simple monument of departed greatness. It is the property of the Chapmen of the Lothians, and is said to have been acquired by them in 1636. It is supposed by some antiquaries that the company referred to are the modern representatives of that most respectable fraternity, and it is worthy of remark, that, according to common report, the descendants of those most useful persons are men no less deserving of public confidence and respect, than their mercantile progenitors were.

Ruin at Dolphingston.—In the hamlet of this name, through which is the great road to London, are several broken walls and gables, obviously of very ancient erection. From the peculiar affection cherished by the monks for this district of country, it is certainly allowable, in the absence of any distinct information regarding their origin and use, to suppose that here they had another pleasant and profitable abode.

Land-owners.—The chief proprietors in the parish are, Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart. of Balgone and Prestongrange, patron of the parish; William Aitchison, Esq. of Drummorie; George Sime, Esq. of Northfield; John Fowler, Esq. of Hallidoun and Burnrigg; the Trustees of Schaw's Hospital; the Trustees of George Watson's Hospital; Colonel Macdowall of Logan; Mrs Gowans; Sir William Hamilton, Bart. of Preston and Fingalton; the Heirs of the late Miss Clapperton; and William Cockburn, Esq. of Preston Cottage.

The number of acres under cultivation is 739. The rental is L. 2929, 2s. 10d.

Parochial Registers.—During the last century, the records of session have been kept with considerable care. Between the years 1600 and 1690, there are several important blanks. It is seriously to be feared that the volumes wanting are irrecoverably lost. The earliest entry is in the register of births and marriages. Its date is 1596; 1601 is the earliest date in the record of discipline. It is supposed, that there are few more venerable registers anywhere than in this parish. Unfortunately, the apparently sportive variations in the writing have hitherto rendered the treasures of wisdom concealed in them accessible to an expert few alone.

III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1755,	.	1596
1792,	.	2028
1801,	.	1964
1811,	.	1995
1821,	.	2055
1831,	.	2376
1835,	.	2467

Number of families in the parish in 1831,	514
chiefly employed in agriculture,	50
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	257

Illegitimate births in the course of the last three years, 10.

Character of the People.—There are many excellent people in this parish at present, and it is earnestly to be hoped that the number of such may yearly increase. If the means of juvenile education were more abundant, and the passion for ardent spirits less powerful than it is, there would be more appropriate themes for the exercise of a despondent mind than the future amelioration of our population. Violations of the Lord's day are not so customary here as they once were. A more enlightened regard to the sacred behests of scriptural principle is on the increase; and we live in the hope of our posterity being at least no worse than their progenitors.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—As the arable lands in the parish are very limited in their extent, and the writer of this Account is far from being intelligent regarding either the practices or profits of agriculture, he deems it no great departure from a modest prudence, to refer to the former Statistical Report, in which there is no lack of learning on that head. It is believed that the present agriculturists in the parish have kept up with the recent improvements in their art.

Fisheries.—At the proper season of the year, the fishery of oysters forms the principal occupation of a large number of our seafaring men. Long before dawn, in the bleakest season of the year, their dredging song may be heard afar off, and, except when the wind is very turbulent, their music, which is not disagreeable, appears to be an accompaniment of labours that are by no means unsuccessful. A constant trade is maintained by means of large boats, capable of containing 25,000 or 30,000 oysters, with Newcastle, Shields, and Hartlepool. Of the individuals engaged in this fishery, it may be safely averred, that if their expenditure were regulated by a due regard to their incomes, many would be far from being poor, and not a few would have the comfort of being passing rich on L. 40 a-year.

Trade.—The trade of Prestonpans was formerly of very considerable extent; and among the privileges of the barony was a free harbour, with right of levying dues and customs to the same extent as those exigible at Leith, or any other port of the kingdom.

Manufactures.—During a long period, a large number of persons in the parish were regularly employed in the manufacture of stoneware, tiles, bricks, &c. Of late, however, all the operations

of potting, with the exception of two small works for brown ware, have been suspended, to the serious disadvantage of numerous and manifold interests. In the immediate neighbourhood of Prestongrange colliery, drain tiles are made.

There is a manufactory of soap, in which several hands are constantly employed by Mr Paterson, whose business appears to be, most deservedly, thriving.

In the salt-pans of Mr William Alexander, a very large quantity of that most necessary article of commerce is annually manufactured. He imports his rock salt from the neighbourhood of Liverpool, and is enabled to produce a commodity of superior excellence. It is equally deserving of remark and extensive imitation, that Mr Alexander, desirous of advancing the general interests of his workmen, has, during the last twelvemonths, paid their wages on Friday instead of Saturday; and the result distinctly proves that neither his servants nor himself have had any reason to regret the change. It has evidently been followed by consequences so morally important, as to encourage other masters to adopt a similar plan. The condition of families is deeply affected by the pay-day.

The brewery of Mr Fowler has long been signalized by the high character of its ales. There is perhaps no similar manufactory in Scotland that has for so long a period sustained its well-earned celebrity. Nor is it probable, that, in Mr Hislop's management, it will be less famous in future than it has been in the past.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The common necessities of life are procured in the village of Prestonpans. It is believed that the greater part of the grain raised in the parish is sent to Edinburgh and sold there.

Means of Communication.—There is a carrier to Edinburgh twice a week from the parish. There is also daily communication by the North Berwick coach; and the several carriers from the east pass through the village, on their way to town.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church was built in 1774.* It affords accommodation for 750 persons, and, though in no way distinguished either by elegance of furniture or beauty of aspect, it is, in comfort, inferior to none in the county. It is now by far

* Since the Revolution, the following ministers have served the cure of this parish:—Mr John Moncrieff, Mr George Andrews, Mr Robert Horsburgh, (great-great-grandfather of the present incumbent,) Mr William Carlyle, Mr Matthew Reid, Mr William Roy, Dr Joseph M'Cormick, Mr John Trotter, Dr Peter Primrose, and William Bruce Cunningham.

too small for the population, and, indeed, at the period of its original erection, it must have been deficient. It is capable of being both heated and lighted,—advantages the value of which are duly felt and appreciated by the parishioners. The extent of the glebe is 6 acres. The stipend is 16 chalders, and above L. 17 in money, in which the allowance for communion elements is included. The manse was put into a most comfortable state of repair in 1834. It would be a happy condition for the families of ministers, in general, if the same consideration for their comfort were displayed by heritors, as those of this parish have all along manifested for the personal and domestic comfort of its incumbent.

Almost all the population adhere to the Established Church, and, in so far as any man has an opportunity of knowing the condition and feelings of the people of a parish so poor as this is, he will not be slow to condemn Voluntaryism as utterly inadequate to the supply of their spiritual wants. The Dissenters of all denominations and ages amount to 100 individuals.

Education.—Besides the parochial and infant schools, the latter of which is on the Lowland Scheme of the General Assembly's Committee, there are four schools in the parish. One of these has been commenced lately under the patronage of Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart. As it is planted in what is rather a necessitous district, and receives most valuable assistance from its patron, it is likely to be well attended, and to prove exceedingly useful. The teacher appears to be diligent in his work, and is deserving of all encouragement. The other three schools are taught on the teachers' own adventure alone. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary: and his fees may amount to L. 40 a year. He is also session and heritors' clerk. The school is taught by an assistant and successor. A Sabbath school has been taught in the parish church for several years. Nearly 200 children attend. It is taught by one of the elders, the parochial schoolmaster, and several members of the church.

Friendly Societies.—At one period, this parish had more than enough of such institutions. The only survivors now are the Carters', Gardeners', several yearly societies, and the Sailors' Incorporation. The funds belonging to the last-mentioned exceed L. 1200, and hitherto have been managed with considerable skill and prudence. It is much to be feared that, except the yearly societies and the Sailors, the others are not based on those principles which can insure their continuance or prosperity.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The annual assessment is about L. 300,—a sum which, being required for a population of 2500 souls, is a painful evidence of the extent and depth of the pauperism. The number of poor on the roll is 80. To a very great extent it may be traced to the sale of ardent spirits on the Sabbath, and the many evil habits that ensue from that vicious practice. Within the last month, the third lunatic within the last two years has been cast upon the poor's funds; and in each of these lamentable cases, the origin is to be referred to the uncommon facilities of excessive drinking afforded on the Lord's day by the necessary cessation of toil, the enjoyment of wages, (which are too generally paid on the Saturday night,) and the open sale of intoxicating liquors at all hours on the Sabbath day. Notwithstanding the very onerous assessment which is annually born by heritors and feuars, there are few parishes in Scotland where so much is done in a voluntary way for the poor and destitute of their neighbourhood. The average collections for several years have amounted to about 12s. each Sabbath,—a sum which, as there are few resident heritors in the parish, will cast into the shade the voluntary collections of wealthier and more important districts. The average yearly amount of collection is L. 31. No spectacle can be more gratifying to the mind of the friends of the poor, than the large amount of copper-money which is weekly cast into the charity-plates. It is highly expressive of the feelings of a class who cannot boast of much gold or silver,—and may dictate a profitable lesson to many who have been much more highly favoured with the good things of this life. A distribution of coals, provided by a public subscription, is annually made under the auspices of Mr Paterson, whose services to the poor are not more unwearied than they are disinterested,—while, with equal regularity and constancy, the members of many a poor and needy household are cheered and comforted by the generous offices of Sir George and Lady Harriet Suttie, whose aid, amid the rigours of winter, is never solicited in vain.

Inns and Alehouses.—There are 24 houses in the parish in which ardent spirits are legally sold; of these 7 are public-houses. As may be inferred from what has been already remarked regarding a main cause of the vast pauperism, by which both the property and industry of the parish are so severely oppressed, an enormous quantity of inebriating liquors were at one period sold on the Sabbath. The scenes connected with this fearful abuse were of the most

affecting and disgusting description. At a very early hour in the morning, after a night of drunkenness and riot, mothers of families might be seen hurrying with steps as rapid as if their immortal destinies depended on their speed, with vessels containing gallons of spirits, but partially, if at all concealed. At a later hour, withered-looking children, scarcely escaped from the bonds of helpless infancy, might be witnessed passing to and fro amid the severities of the wintry storm, in fearful ministry to the cruel and remorseless passions of their benighted and ruined parents. From the closing hours of the preceding evening, until the midnight darkness of the day of God, the peace of the community was ever at stake. The coarse shout of brutal merriment,—the vicious and vulgar oath,—the shriek of fear bursting from woman's lips,—the appalling sounds of injury and violence,—all these might be heard issuing from dwellings, where not only men and women, but little children, would be found swelling with hoarse notes the confused din and disturbance.

A proposal for discontinuing the sale of spirits on the Lord's day having been made, it was, upon the whole, most favourably received by the dealers; who entered unanimously into a formal resolution against the practice. This resolution is now universally adhered to; and its effects have been most beneficial.

April 1839.

PARISH OF NORTH BERWICK.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ROBERT BALFOUR GRAHAM, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—VARIOUS etymologies are given of the name. One only appears unexceptionable. *Aber* is well known to signify the termination or mouth of a river, and *wick*, a town; hence the name '*Berwick*', dropping the initial letter which is retained in Aberdeen, Abernethy, Aberdour, Aberbrothick, &c. This is precisely descriptive of the situation of the town of North Berwick, on a corner or an angle of land at the mouth of the river or Frith of Forth. It is called *North* Berwick, evidently to distinguish it from *South* Berwick, so designated in the charters of the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth centuries; which was also originally a Scotch town, though now an English one, and now styled Berwick-upon-Tweed. One other etymology may be cited. Chalmers, in his *Caledonia*, states, that in those early charters, and in the Northumbrian topography, the orthography of the name is *Bar-wic* or *Barewic*: the bare or naked village; appropriate, as he conceives, to the site of North Berwick, which, according to his representation, stands on the naked shore of the Forth.

Extent—Boundaries.—The parish consists of a royal burgh and a landward district, and extends 3 miles from west to east, and upwards of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from north to south. It is bounded on the north by the Frith of Forth; on the south, by the parishes of Whitekirk and Prestonkirk; on the west, by the parish of Dirleton; and on the east, partly by the Frith of Forth, and partly by Auldham, an ancient parish now united with the conjoined parishes of Whitekirk and Tynninghame.

Mountains.—There is a picturesque range of trap rocks from east to west, at Balgone and Rockville, about two miles south from the town, partly wooded and partly bare, of great beauty; a deep pass through which line, forming the public road to Linton,

covered with copse, and studded sideway with little perennial springs, is an unique picture of choice Highland scenery. North Berwick *Law*, half a mile south from the town, is a very beautiful conical hill, about 940 feet above the level of the sea, standing on an elevated plain, and of comparatively easy ascent. The various views in ascending, and especially from the summit of the hill, inland and seaward, are of the most delighting and commanding character. The ruins on the top are only of modern date, and were the residence of the party—(a naval officer and three assistants,) in charge of the signal station established thereon during the late war, and dismantled on the return of peace. The erections are all unroofed, and yearly accumulating the usual interest and tokens of time and tempest. The *Law* is of considerable extent, fully 70 acres, and is used for the pasture of sheep. It is wooded near the base to the east, whence there is an ascent of the mountain by a prepared zig-zag path, called from its form the *M-Walk*. An enclosed green meadow, enriched with venerable elm trees, surrounds it on the south and west. On the south side of the hill is a quarry of excellent reddish stone, from which the town has principally been built.

Links.—Links extend along the shore. Those to the west of the town are attached to the Abbey portion of the barony of North Berwick, and are pastured by the cows of the inhabitants of the *West-gate*, the portion of the town beyond the bounds of the royalty. Those to the east of the town are the property of the town, a common for the burgesses, whose cows graze along, terminating with the public washing-house and bleaching green, and bounded by Mill-burn, the only stream in the parish. It is proposed to feu the southern and elevated portion of the eastern links for villas, according to a plan which is now being arranged; a scheme which promises to be an essential improvement to the appearance and interests of North Berwick.

Coast.—The coast, very rocky, full of inequalities and indentures, may be stated to be of about three miles and a-half in extent, faced on the west by the greenstone island of Craigleith, and on the east by the Bass. A very beautiful semicircular bay lies immediately to the west of the harbour reaching to Point Garry; a smaller is to the east of the town at the foot of the Rhodes farm; and a third and larger, much admired, named Canty Bay, lies about three miles east of the town, directly opposite to the Bass, which is the residence of the tenant of the Bass, and his assistants, where boats

are constantly kept for the conveyance of visitors to the far-famed rock. The shore to the west is somewhat flat and sandy, but to the east it is generally high and rocky, with several rugged projecting headlands, terminating north-east with the extensive lofty precipice on which stand the venerable and classic ruins of Tantallan Castle.

Directly opposite to the town of North Berwick, a mile from the shore, is an island, about a mile in circumference, called Craigleith. It is a bare barren rock, inhabited only by rabbits and sea-fowl. The jack-daws are in immense numbers, and it is a favourite residence of the *Tommy-norrie*, alias the *Coulternéb* or puffin. The town-council had resolved, many years ago, in pecuniary difficulties, to sell this island, and it was intended to dispose of it by lottery. Arrangements were gone into accordingly; but it was discovered that such a transaction would have been illegal; and in 1814 it was sold to Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart. for L. 400. It is now conjoined with the North Berwick barony. Steamers and other vessels regularly pass in the channel between the island and North Berwick. Occasionally in storms from the north-east or east, the tremendous dashing and breaking of the mighty waves on the white precipitous cliffs on the eastern part of this island, create a scene peculiarly sublime.

Climate.—On the whole, the climate is peculiarly salubrious. There is no prevalent distemper, no ague; and pulmonary consumption is peculiarly rare. The register of deaths for the last six months of 1838 gives only two adults, and three young children. Throughout 1838, the recorded deaths in the parish are only five adults, and seven children. The winter is generally clear and mild; in spring, however, from the prevalence of the east and north-east winds, it is often keenly cold; the geniality of summer and autumn is amply attested in the crowded influx of strangers for the enjoyment of sea-bathing and perambulation among the beautiful scenery around.

Hydrography.—The Frith of Forth bounds the parish on the south and east, semi-circumambient to Auldham Bay. One or two insignificant streamlets wind their course to the Forth, but are scarcely more than the confluence of drains or trivial marshes. Mill-Burn, however, deserves notice, meandering its way round the west and south base of the Law, and through a sweetly secluded and wooded ravine, styled the *Glen*,—a delightful retreat and walk, sheltered from every wind, and opening at its termination on a splendid

view of the Frith, embracing the Isle of May, the east nook of Fife, and Craigleith.

Geology.—The rocks in this parish belong to the secondary and alluvial classes, and of these the predominating kinds are secondary.

I. *Secondary formations.*—These are sandstone, limestone, and trap. The sandstone, generally of a red colour, sometimes contains beds of limestone; one of these, remarkable for its offensive smell, occurs at Rhodes quarry, about half a mile from North Berwick. The sandstone and limestone are older than the true *coal metals*, and, therefore, workable coal is not to be expected under or in them. The trap or whinstone rocks which form the greater part of the parish, either cover or traverse in various ways the sandstone strata. Immediately above the town of North Berwick, rises the beautiful conical hill, named North Berwick-Law, whose summit is about 940 feet above the level of the sea, and 800 feet above its base. The district around the hill is low, and slightly undulated. The lowest rock visible is a variety of trap tufa; higher up is amygdaloid. The middle and upper parts of the hill are of a beautiful and very sonorous variety of clinkstone porphyry; and the summit rock is clinkstone porphyry, intermixed with crystals of augite, thus forming a transition to augite-greenstone. The clinkstone is, in some places, columnar, and forms cliffs of considerable magnitude. The Bass Rock, so celebrated in history, is a vast mass of secondary trap, resembling that of North Berwick-Law. It is an augite greenstone, generally fine granular, but sometimes so abounding in felspar as to verge on clinkstone. It exhibits, in a very marked manner, the tabular structure, as is also the case in the similarly composed Isle of May.

II. *Alluvial Strata.*—These do not differ in individual and general characters from the alluvial deposits in the neighbouring parishes. A more detailed account of the geology of this parish is given by Professor Jameson, in the third volume of the *Memoirs of the Wernerian Natural History Society*.

Soil.—The soil of this parish is, in general, as stated in the former Statistical Account, rich, fertile, and well cultivated, producing large crops of wheat, barley, oats, peas and beans. No hemp is raised, nor flax. Turnips are now extensively cultivated, and potatoes are raised in considerable quantities. This parish has largely shared in the improvements of modern agriculture; and is distinguished for the science, and care, and success of its husbandry.

Zoology.—It is on the island of the Bass, that the rarer species of zoology in this parish are to be found. We subjoin the statement of the birds that breed on the Bass, as furnished to us by the keeper of the island. “The Solan goose or gannet, measuring 6 feet from tip to tip of the wings; the large black gull, about 5 feet; the large blue gull, about 4 feet 9 inches; the kittiwake, about 3 feet 7 inches; the common marrot or guillemot, about 2 feet 8 inches; the puffin or Tommy-norrie, about 2 feet; the razor-billed marrot, or common puffin, about 2 feet 4 inches; the falcon or hawk, the large raven, the eider-duck, and the cormorant; with innumerable flocks of smaller birds not peculiar to the Bass.”

The most celebrated of the sea fowl frequenting the Bass is called the solan goose, or the gannet, a large white bird, measuring six feet from tip to tip of the wings, of which there are numberless thousands. It is almost peculiar to the Bass and Ailsa Craig; though occasionally, we believe, it is seen in some of the northern and western islands of Scotland. It hatches on the bare niches or shelves of the rock. Its season of incubation is in the months of June and July. The keeper assures us it is mere fiction, that the bird broods with her *sole* on the egg, whence the name is supposed to have arisen, for that the egg under the body of this bird, is hatched in every way just as in the case of the domestic goose. It is equally a fiction that she lays but one egg. The keeper has taken more than a dozen eggs successively from the nest of one bird; but leave her with her first egg and she will lay no more. It is equally a fiction that the egg is fastened to the rock by any peculiarly adhesive glutinous substance. The solan goose is a bird of annual migration. They come to the rock early in February in successive increasing flocks. It is about the beginning of August that the young are taken, after which the old begin to depart. They prepare to migrate as soon as their young are taken from them. They linger till October, and by December they were wont to be almost entirely gone, no one knows whither; but within these last three years, hundreds have remained on the rock throughout the winter,—because herrings have remained; and they depart and return in correspondence with the movements of the fish on whom they prey.* Only the young birds are taken and sold. Sometimes even 1700 have been taken in a season, and sometimes not 700. They are taken from the rock by the

* We are assured that, not for forty years, have so many herrings been taken in the Frith of Forth as during last year.

keeper, who descends with a rope fastened around his waist, and held above by his assistant; another rope is fastened to the rock above, which he holds around his hand, to facilitate his movements. He lays hold of the bird with a hook, draws it toward him, and kills it with a stroke on the head; then with great force throws it from him over the projections of the rock to the sea below, where the men in the boat are prepared to pick it up. The act of throwing, the keeper tells us, is the most difficult and perilous effort in the process. The feathers are valuable, and skilfully prepared for use: the grease is carefully secured, and sold for a variety of purposes. The flesh is of a fishy peculiar flavour, an epicurean *bonne-bouche*; not, however, adapted to universal taste or enjoyment.—It is also a traditional error, that the solan goose remains at one ancient invariable price. It has long ceased to be 2s. 6d. The keeper tells us, twenty years ago it was only 1s. The usual price now is 9d. The eggs of the sea-fowls that are sold, are those only of the black and blue gull, at 1s. 6d. a dozen.

The parish is not remarkable for breeding any peculiar species of cattle. The fish commonly taken in the Frith are cod, haddock, whiting, skate, turbot, and flounders; of course herrings and mackerel in their seasons. The shell-fish are abundant and excellent: chiefly lobsters and crabs. These are conveyed in carts to Edinburgh and Glasgow, and to London by fish smacks, expressly built for this purpose. The usual retail price of a lobster is 1s. and of a crab 1d.

Botany.—The dominion of the plough is not favourable to the objects of the botanist, and, excepting the Law and the Links, the parish is wholly arable. These exceptions, of course, present the usual varieties suited to such soils. There are very fine aged trees at Balgone and Leuchie—ash, beech, elm, oak, plane—which species seem best fitted to the atmosphere and soil, and grow magnificently. For the botany of the Bass, see Dr Walker's "Essays on Natural History."

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

North Berwick, though its origin is unknown, is a town of very ancient date,—being as old, at least, as the thirteenth century. It stands low, on the verge of the Frith of Forth, and consists of one long street from west to east, and of another near its eastern termination, from the north down direct to the harbour; this latter street, ornamented with a row of trees on each side, is the principal residence of the gentry. It was indebted

for its incorporation as a royal burgh to its charter from Robert III. ; and its municipal privileges were confirmed by a charter of James VI., dated 18th September 1568. It is governed by two bailies, a treasurer, and nine councillors. There is no guildry, and there are no incorporated crafts. It has, at no time, been a place of much commerce or consideration, as is evident from the small amount of the sums levied from it at the successive periods of public taxation. Of course it was represented by its commissioner in the Scottish Parliament ; and since the Union, it has been associated with Haddington, Dunbar, Lauder, and Jedburgh, in the election of a representative to the united Parliament.

The manor and the town of North Berwick, are stated as having been possessed by the Earls of Fife, the descendants of Macduff, during the twelfth, thirteenth, and a part of the fourteenth centuries. The last of this great family who enjoyed this estate was Isabel, the last Countess of that line, who lived during the revolutionary reign of David II. At the accession of Robert II., by an unrecorded arrangement with Robert Duke of Albany, William Earl of Douglas acquired the barony of North Berwick, and so laid the foundation of the long, extensive, and powerful influence of the Douglasses in East Lothian. In 1373, by a charter of Robert II. to Earl William, North Berwick was made a burgh, with the privileges of buying and selling, with a port and custom-house for the entrance and clearance of ships, and a tron for the weighing of wool. This is the most ancient charter of North Berwick. The Earl at the same time entered into an obligation to resign this charter, "if the same should be found detrimental to the king, to the nation, or to the burgh." It does not appear that the Earl succeeded in his beneficent design. Even in 1692, more than three centuries afterwards, the town is stated to have had "only two fishing boats." It will be seen, in a future place, to what comparative importance it has progressively advanced.

The manor of North Berwick often changed its lords. It was forfeited in 1455, by James Earl of Douglas ; but in 1479, it was granted by James III. with most of the forfeiture of that Earl, to his heir-male Archibald Earl of Angus, and erected into a free barony ; —though the king was ill requited for his benefaction, for Angus pursued James III. to his dethronement and death ; and in the possession of this younger line of the family of Douglas it long remained, associated with the lands and castle of Tantallan, the renowned seat of their power and defence. We find that the site of the mo-

nastery, with much of the property belonging to it, was granted by James VI. to Alexander Home, the possessor of the barony of North Berwick ; but his family failed, and the property was transferred successively to other owners, and in 1640 a ratification was passed in Parliament of the right of Sir William Dick to the lands and tithes of the barony. These possessions were many years afterwards acquired by Sir Hew Dalrymple, Lord President of the College of Justice ; who purchased also from the Marquis, afterwards Duke of Douglas, representative of the Earls of Angus, the remainder of the barony of North Berwick, styled the lands and lordship with the fortalice of Tantallan. The property of the whole has descended regularly in entail, and is now vested in Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart., the lineal descendant of the President of the Court of Session.

Eminent Characters.—Many illustrious men in ancient times have lived and died in the parish of North Berwick, and illustrious women too ; the Lords of Tantallan, the Prioresses of the monastery, and the Martyrs of the Bass,—over most of whom the veil of oblivion has long fallen, and it cannot be upraised. How very soon the mighty and the famed, the learned and the good, fade into the shade of forgotten time, without the faintest memorial even of their existence ; no note even to tell us where they sleep ! So fares it here with the house of Douglas, and the house of Home, and the many beside, rich and powerful, and noted in their various generations. Tradition reports St Baldred, the disciple of St Kentigern, and the apostle of East Lothian, as a resident on the Bass. He died in the beginning of the seventh century.

As an eminent character, celebrated in the fifteenth century, the name of John Mair or Major must be recorded as a native of this parish.* He was born at Gleghornie in 1469. He became a member of Christ's College, Cambridge, where in 1518 he seems to have written his learned history. He became a member of the University of Glasgow, and bore the titles of Canon of the Chapel Royal and Vicar of Dunlop. He is represented as Professor of Theology in Glasgow in 1521, and one of the *Deputati Rectoris* ; during that year his work "*De Gestis Scotorum*" was published in Paris. He remained in Scotland about five years, and taught theology in the University of St Andrews ; where, in 1525, Buchanan is stated

* I am indebted to my esteemed friend, Mr Robert Chambers, for the knowledge of this fact, in whose very valuable "*Biographical Dictionary of Eminent Scotsmen*," the more curious reader will find ample details regarding this learned historian.

to have studied under him in the College of St Salvador, and to have been so fascinated with his instructions as to have followed him to France. He returned to Scotland in 1530, and resumed his teaching of theology in St Andrews, which he continued for many years, and died about the year 1547.—The Earl of Angus, the famed husband of Margaret of England, the queen mother of James V., whose changeful and eventful life occupies so prominent a place in the Scottish Annals of the sixteenth century, died at Tantallan about 1556 or 1557.—Of the Martyrs the name of John Blackader, minister of Troqueer, a descendant of the House of Tulliallan, who died on the Bass in 1685, after five years confinement, remains in vivid and hallowed remembrance. He is buried in the churchyard of North Berwick, where a large flat monumental stone, with an appropriate poetical inscription, marks the place of his sacred rest. Its legend was renewed some years ago under the inspection of Dr Andrew Crichton, while officially resident here, whose published “Memoirs of Blackader” are full of interest and instruction.—Besides Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart. raised to be the Lord President of the Court of Session in 1698, and which office he filled till 1737, the name of Sir Hew Dalrymple, a later ancestor of the present Baronet, is very honourably known throughout the country for his enlightened enterprise and improvements in agriculture, as is also the name of the late Sir George Suttie, Bart. of Balgone.

Land-owners.—The heritors are, Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart. the chief proprietor, a Captain in Her Majesty’s 71st Regiment, now on service in Canada; Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart. of Balgone and Prestongrange; Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ferguson of Dirleton and Belhaven; the Earl of Dalhousie; Sir Edward Thomas Troubridge, Bart. of Rockville; Patrick Dudgeon, Esq. of East Craig; and William Waddell, Esq. of Sydserff. It is to be recorded, with great regret, that there is not one of the heritors resident in the parish.

Parish Registers.—The parochial records were, at one time, voluminous and in excellent preservation; but for very many years they were kept with extreme carelessness and irregularity. It is only very recently that they have been kept with resumed accuracy and propriety. There is an inventory made early in 1692; on the induction of Mr Matthew Reid as minister, which represents the records as commencing in 1604; but the two earliest volumes, containing proceedings from 1604 to 1638, with subse-

quent records, have unaccountably disappeared, and the earliest register we have seen is dated 19th October 1651. From this date the register of baptisms and of proclamation of marriages seems in pretty good order; while from 1758 onward to a recent date, there appear no minutes of session whatever. There are now regular and authentic records carefully kept of the proceedings of session, and registers of births and baptisms, of proclamation of marriages, and of burials. The Dissenters seldom register the birth of their children in the parish session records,—occasionally they do. A serious neglect in parochial registration has prevailed here, as generally elsewhere, we fear, in the proclamation of marriages alone being recorded, and not the solemnization. It has happened repeatedly during the incumbency of the present minister in this parish, that proclamation was duly made and recorded, but the proposed marriage never took place. Parties after marriage should present the certificate of its celebration to the clerk of session, and have the fact of marriage duly registered. The other parochial registers, as now conducted, however, are more correctly the registers of baptisms than of births, and of burials than of deaths.

Antiquities.—This parish is noted for its antiquities, sacred and civil; and the delineations of them, literary and graphic, are numerous and valuable. The former Statistical Account is unreasonably and unaccountably meagre; and details somewhat more lengthened, perhaps, seem due to the genuine and popular interest of the subjects. Only a few brief notices, however, are all that may be expected to receive admission here.

Abbey.—About a quarter of a mile west from the town, on a gentle elevation toward the south of the public road, stand the venerable but awfully mutilated ruins of the Abbey of North Berwick. It was a Cistercian nunnery, founded by Duncan Earl of Fife, who died in 1154, of which there are, on the whole, very accurate views in Grose's "Antiquities of Scotland." The site is admirably chosen, commanding extensive and magnificent views—on the one hand of the beautiful and lofty Law, and on the other of the rich and variegated coasts of Fife, the Frith with its numerous rugged rocky islands, and the immeasurably expanding ocean. It was consecrated to the Virgin Mary, and richly endowed with lands in the manor of North Berwick, and with revenues from different sources in Fife, Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, Ayrshire, Edinburghshire, and West Lothian. Its founder bestow-

ed on the convent the patronage of the church of North Berwick, with its tithes and pertinents. Afterwards were acquired the advowsons of the church of Largo, of Kilconacher, Kilbrachmont, and St Monance in Fife, with lands that belonged to each of them. The Bishop of Dunblane added the church of Logie Aithry, near Stirling; and Adam de Kilconacher, Earl of Carrick, a zealous patron of the convent, in 1266, confirmed to the nuns the grants of his fathers. In the ancient *Taxatio*, the lands which belonged to the nunnery were rated at L. 66, 13s. 4d. In 1296, the Prioress submitted to the power of Edward I, and received in return writs to the several sheriffs of Fife, Edinburgh, Haddington, Berwick, and Roxburgh, to restore the estates of her convent. Submission thus insured protection; and, for a while, the female inhabitants of the nunnery were again safe in the enjoyment of their possessions. But, in the future progress of anarchy and turbulent violence, their weakness invited deprivation and plunder under James III.; the servants and the tithes of the Prioress within the parishes of Kilconacher, Kilbrachmont, and St Monance were assaulted and seized. The Prioress, in 1482, applied to Parliament for protection and redress; and the Lords decreed the restoration of the property, and the repair of the damages that the assailants had inflicted.—In the succeeding reign, Margaret Home, fourth daughter of Sir Patrick Home of Polwarth, (who died in 1504), became a nun, and rose to be Prioress in the convent. Her niece, Isabel, third daughter of Sir Alexander Home of Polwarth, (who died in 1532), also from being a nun, succeeded her aunt as prioress. It is thus seen, that, previously to the Reformation, the nunnery had become in a measure the inheritance of the Homes. After the Reformation the revenues of the convent which remained unalienated and untransferred, were erected into a lordship for Sir Alexander Home of North Berwick, a special favourite of James VI.; and the patronages of the various other churches were distributed to various suitors, at the pleasure of the King and the Parliament. At the Reformation the convent contained eleven nuns, whose income was about L. 20 each, yearly. The income of the nunnery is stated thus: “Money, L. 556, 17s. 8d; wheat, 9 chalders, 12 bolls; bear, 19 chalders, 4 bolls; oats, 14 chalders, 4 bolls; pease and beans, 3 chalders, 9 bolls; malt, 1 boll, 3 firlots, and 3 pecks; 18 oxen, 13 cows, 1 last and 9 barrels of salmon.” (Books of Assumption.) The monastery has been, at one time, evidently very magnificent, strongly built, and covering an ex-

tensive area of ground. But it has occasionally been very lightly esteemed, and is sadly dilapidated; though the massive remains are very picturesque, embosomed among trees, and form a very interesting memorial of olden times. Various relics are occasionally gathered from the fallen ruins. Leaden pipes of considerable extent have very recently been discovered, which served for the conveyance from the higher ground of water to the convent, and which are obviously of great antiquity. The Vaults, which formed one of Grose's Views, were many years ago, entirely destroyed and erased.

Auld Kirk.—Near the harbour, on a small sandy eminence, close to the shore, stand the remains of what is traditionally called the Auld Kirk; but these interesting vestiges have been sadly diminished, even in very recent years. The main entrance, a strongly built archway, is still entire, and the font is still permitted to remain in its primeval position and perfection. The building, said by some to have been a chapel belonging to the abbey, would seem to have been the Auld Kirk of the parish, and evidently was surrounded by the parochial burying-ground, very long disused. Year after year, in the violent north-east storms which are not unfrequent in winter and spring, the sea makes melancholy ravages on this scene of ancient sepulture, and continues to disturb and discover many forms which for centuries have reposed there. Care is taken to have these human relics removed on their exposure, and re-interred in the present churchyard. It was in a vault at the Auld Kirk, in 1788, a metallic seal was found in a stone-coffin with the legend “*Sigillum Willieimi de Douglas*,”—the impression it produces is very distinct; it is round, of the size of a half-crown. It were exceedingly desirable that means were taken to prevent the destructive encroachments of the sea on this antique cemetery, and to prevent the remaining ruin from further dilapidation. A large stone lies flat in the green centre of the area which the building must have inclosed, and is said to mark the burying-place of the Lauders of the Bass.

Tantallan.—About three miles east from the town of North Berwick, on a projecting precipitous eminence, of trap tufa resting on sandstone, overlooking the sea, which surrounds it on three sides, stands the far-famed castle of Tantallan,* in naked

* A curious etymology of this name is given traditionally, that two superintendents of the building of the Castle, called *Thomas* and *Allan*, obtained permission from its Lord, to inscribe their names as architects prominently on the walls (in Latin:) the inscription stood thus: *Tam et Allan*, hence the name the people gave it, *Tam 't Allan*. This and other amusing traditions and representations may be found in the Notes to Miller's “*St Baldred of the Bass*,” a poem of considerable merit.

majestic ruin. Its form is an irregular hexagon. The outward structure is comparatively entire; the walls are of enormous thickness. The only approach is from the west, which was defended by towers of a very massive construction,—and two ditches intervened—the inner one of uncommon depth. The entrance was over a drawbridge. Above the entrance there still remains, sculptured in a stone shield, though now much effaced, the memorable emblem of the Bloody Heart, the well known ensign of the Douglasses, its early, proud, and powerful proprietors. The interior exhibits a labyrinth of inaccessible chambers and broken staircases; the walls of the buildings remain all unroofed, of great size and extent, and arched gloomy vaults beneath them. There are several dismal subterraneous dungeons, the former prison-holds, no doubt, of the miserable captives; and long, in later days, the hidden haunts of smugglers, and the unsuspected depositories of their contrabands. One of the most deep, and dark, and dismal of these dungeons is outside the castle, at the north-west angle, and only recently discovered; and is conjectured to have been the dungeon-keep of the guard-house. The site of Tantallan Castle is admirably adapted for a warlike strength. Its origin and the date of its erection are equally unknown. It rose with the power of the House of Douglas, whose original settlement in East Lothian was on the accession of Robert II., when William, Earl of Douglas, acquired the barony of North Berwick. For centuries, Tantallan was the great and principal strength and defence in the east of this proud and powerful family. It was so admirably situated and so skilfully constructed, that it mocked every military enterprise for its conquest. Its destruction was regarded as impossible; hence the popular conviction, “Ding down Tantallan?—mak a brig to the Bass,”—accomplishments viewed as equally hopeless. The barony of North Berwick, with the Castle of Tantallan, was forfeited by the Earl of Douglas in 1455. In 1479, they were given by James III. to Archibald, fifth Earl of Angus, the well known “Bell the Cat,” whose patriotism and exploits,—whose remonstrance with James IV. against his war with England, and consequent retirement to Tantallan,—have become familiar to every reader, by the admirable delineations of the author of *Marmion*, whose descriptions (by the way) are vividly faithful to the real character and localities of the celebrated stronghold. When the succeeding Earl of Angus, married to the queen-mother of James V., had fallen from his supreme elevation, and lost his power over the person and councils of that youthful

monarch, he withdrew to the Castle of Tantallan, and there for a time defied the hostile force of the kingdom. The King appeared before it in person in September 1528, and attempted its reduction, but without avail. At length, however, Angus was compelled to flee to England; and the castle, by a compromise with Panango, the governor, on the 4th December, was surrendered to the royal forces. Tantallan and all the other castles and estates of the Earl were forfeited to the Crown. In 1537, the King personally visited Tantallan to ascertain its capabilities of defence. On the King's death the Earl obtained permission to return from his long exile; his restoration to the possession of his castles and manors took place in 1542, and he made Tantallan stronger than ever. He is stated to have died at Tantallan about 1557. But this mighty stronghold fell before the fervid zeal and tremendous energies of the Covenanters. The Marquis of Douglas had favoured the designs of Charles I., and his castle was besieged, captured, and garrisoned by the Covenanters, against the King, in 1639. It is stated as having been finally defended against Oliver Cromwell, and taken after a short siege. In the beginning of the eighteenth century, the castle and lands were sold by the Marquis, afterwards Duke of Douglas, to Lord President Dalrymple, when the castle, till then habitable, was dismantled, and left to decay.

The Bass.—Facing Tantallan Castle on the north, in the mouth of the Frith, about a mile and a-half from the shore, stands the immense rugged circular rock called the Bass. It is fully a mile in circumference. It rises 420 feet above the surface of the sea, and from the fathomed depth of the waters around, it may be estimated about 600 feet in total height. On the north, it is peculiarly lofty and precipitous, and stupendously overawing. On the south, it is somewhat conical in form, sloping moderately down nearly to the base. It has been fancifully stated to resemble in this aspect the spoon and knife and fork-box, such as used to grace our family sideboards.* Its superficies is guessed at seven acres. A caverned passage penetrates through the rock from north-west to south-east, where the rock grandly projects, perhaps, forty feet. The cavern is passable even at full-tide, if the sea be calm. The Bass is inaccessible save on one flat shelvy point to the south-east; the south and the north side of this point are the only two landing-places. Commanding this point, is a small fortalice at the extremity of the curtain. At one time, the fortification could be reached

* *Vide Chambers' Gazetteer of Scotland.*

only by ladders, or a bucket and chains, raised at the crane bastion ; but afterwards, the ascent was by three flights of stairs within the rampart, each protected by a strong gate : these inner gates have long ago disappeared. The fort and the dungeons are all unroofed, and in ruins.—*Blackader's Cell* is still pointed out with its three small iron-barred windows to the west, and awakens many a solemn sacred feeling.—One solitary gun yet remains of the ancient defence, now much corroded : the few other cannon on the Bass were brought thither from Leith only in 1822, to salute George IV. on his visit to Scotland, when the southern landing-place was somewhat prepared in the possibility of his Majesty landing there. The King of Belgium visited the Bass in 1819.

About half-way up the acclivity of the rock, a little below the old effaced garden, are the interesting remains of a chapel, pretty entire. The niches for the fonts shew that it was built prior to the Reformation.* When the Bass became the Bastile of Scotland, the state-prison for the persecuted Covenanters, this chapel was desecrated by being made the ammunition magazine for the garrison.

How early this island was tenanted by man, is quite unknown. It is traditionally reported to have been a residence of Baldred, the apostle of East Lothian, even in the sixth century. It is on authentic record, that it was inhabited in the beginning of the fifteenth century ; for in 1406, Robert III. placed his son on the Bass (afterwards James I.) to be beyond the cruel machinations of his uncle, the Duke of Albany, till a vessel was procured to convey him to France ; and hence he embarked in his memorable ill-fated voyage, which terminated in his nineteen years captivity in England. It is familiar to our readers that he was treacherously way-laid by directions of Henry IV., and captured off Flamborough Head : when the intelligence was conveyed to his father in Rothesay, he sunk in bitterest anguish into an immediate grave.

* A few years ago, an incident occurred on the Bass, expressive of a strong lingering desire to retain the chapel, occasionally, at least, for its original destination. A young lady, in the presence of her father, was here solemnly confirmed in her Romish faith and profession, and the due ritual services were gone through in the presence also of the keeper of the Bass and his boat assistant. On the conclusion of the solemnities, the priest turned to the keeper, and asked him, with due decorum, if he would not also now kneel down before the altar, and follow them in similar dedication and worship. "Me?" said the Protestant Presbyterian James, "Me? Na, na, am thankfu' there's mair sense gi'en me.—I wad just as soon, Sir, fa' doon and worship ane o' thae puir solan geese about us," (pointing to the myriads around him) "than e'er gang on wi' ony sic mockery." My friend and parishioner James remains an invincible adherent of the Reformation, and also, as well may be conjectured, the Bass being ever before him, a stern abhorrent of prelatic tyranny and regal despotism.

The Bass for many generations was the property of an ancient family, styled Lauder of the Bass, one of whom is stated to have been a compatriot of Wallace. The family residence, however, it is believed, was not on the Bass, but in the town of North Berwick. A large flat stone in the desolated cemetery at the Auld Kirk, is said to mark their burial-place. This family, it would seem, at length fell into decay, and the Bass underwent various transferences. It was purchased by government in October 1671, from Sir Andrew Ramsay of Abbotshall, for the sum of L. 4000. Bigotry was then rampant, and tyranny was triumphant. The prisons of our northern kingdom were gorged with the persecuted, and the Bass was converted into a state-prison for the Covenanters under Charles II. It served this debased purpose during the reigns of the last two deluded monarchs of the House of Stuart. It held out for several years after the Revolution against the new dynasty, amidst numerous and vigorous enterprises for its subjection, and was signalized as the last place in Great Britain that yielded to the dominion of William III. In February 1701, he directed the fortifications to be demolished. Ultimately, in 1706, the Bass was granted by the crown to President Sir Hew Dalrymple for one Scots penny, reserving the power of refortifying the Bass, if Government at any time should think it proper to do so. The fort and the prison were afterwards dismantled. The walls remain in naked desolation.

The Bass is an impressive historical scene in the eyes of enlightened and thoughtful men. It is an object of deep national interest, associated with the great scheme of civil and religious freedom. No one should view it without holy gratitude to God for the removal of the mournful oppressive gloom in which the political liberties of these realms, a century and a-half ago, were enshrouded; and for the advanced constitutional freedom of these better and illuminated times in which we are privileged to exist. It is not here we can have space to dwell on one of the foulest pages of our country's annals; on the enormous injustice, the cruel and bitter sorrows, and the accumulated and intolerable wrongs it records; in the reviewal of which the mind and the heart of every man, alive to the inalienable rights of man, fail within him in abhorrence, indignation, and shame. But the names of these venerated captives of the Bass, these Presbyterian faithful, deserve to remain in imperishable remembrance.*

* See Dr Crichton's "Memoirs of Blackader," in which he has given a collected enumeration of the sufferers, mostly from Wodrow's History, which he has carefully collated with the records of the Privy Council.

The island is let to the keeper for L. 30 yearly, on a lease of nineteen years. He resides at Cantry Bay, an opposite hamlet on the shore, a mile and a-half from the rock, where boats are always to be had in the season for the conveyance of visitors. The best season for visiting the Bass is June and July, during the incubation of the geese; and the best hours are early in the morning or evening. The tenant of the Bass alone possesses the key of the Castle; and it is to the honour of the keeper to record, that the Sabbath is kept inviolate, and on week days alone the Bass is to be visited.

There are about seven acres of grassy surface on the rock, which afford pasture for about thirty sheep. The pasture rent is from L. 5 to L. 7 annually. The sheep are in high estimation for their very peculiar excellencies, and bring a high corresponding price.

It is a curious remnant of olden ecclesiastical privilege, that twelve solan geese, *entire, with the feathers on*, are annually paid to the minister of North Berwick,—the vicar of the Bass.

Baldred's Well.—About half a mile south-west from Tantallan Castle, there is a plentiful spring of water of peculiar excellence, substantially and tastefully enclosed, called *Baldred's Well*, which immemorially has supplied the inhabitants of Castleton, and even of Auldham. It is held in high modern estimation for its qualifications *to make tea*.

The ancient House of *Fenton Tower* is also in this parish, the property of Mrs Hamilton Nisbet Ferguson of Raith. It is a prominent object, on a very elevated and exposed situation, close to *Kingston Hill*,—but the walls of the building alone remain, in bare solitary desolation.—Adjoining is the ancient place of *Sydserf*, said to be named from *St Serf*, the revered instructor of St Mungo or Kentigern, to whose memory, as is well known, was dedicated the beautiful and magnificent Cathedral of Glasgow. The mansion-house has long ceased to be the residence of its proprietors, and is now occupied by servants in charge of the property.

Mansions.—Among the mansions of the parish, *North-Berwick House*, or *Leuchie*, built in 1777, finely embosomed among old and young extensive woods, and commanding views of great richness and grandeur. It is the property of the chief heritor. The garden is extensive and fruitful; large sums from time to time have been expended on its enlargement and decoration.—*Balgone*, the property of Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart.,—and *Rockville*, the property of Sir Edward Thomas Troubridge, Bart., with their ample woods and

picturesque rocks, are beautiful seats; but both, as *Leuchie*, are deserted by their respective respected baronets. This universal *absenteeism* is universally felt as a severe bereavement.

Occurrences.—In 1831, the Great Northern Whale, exhibited in Edinburgh and elsewhere, as one of the most remarkable natural phenomena, was discovered at sea a few miles hence, off the property of Sea-Cliff, and brought to the beach at North-Berwick. It had been dead for some weeks, and was partially emaciated and corrupted. Its length was 78 feet. A vertical section of the skull exhibited a part of its walls more than 3 feet in thickness. The weight of the skeleton was 28 tons. The whale was sold by public roup for L. 37 only. The flesh and blubber were employed as manure. The skeleton was purchased for the trifling sum of L. 10, by Dr Robert Knox of Edinburgh, who has since sold it to the College Museum of the University of Edinburgh.

In January 1832, the Asiatic cholera appeared in North-Berwick. It was among the very earliest of its destructive appearances in Scotland, and in its commencement it was invariably fatal. There were sixteen cases: the first seven died, the others all recovered. Measures of arrestment and remedy were promptly adopted; and, under the Divine Blessing, were successful. There has been no return of this awful visitation.

III.—POPULATION.

The population in 1755, was	.	1412
1791,	.	1500
1801,	.	1583
1811,	.	1727
1821,	.	1694
1831,	.	1824

At present the amount is nearly the same as in 1831. The population of the town, including the Wester Gate, may be stated about 1100, and of the country fully 700. There are several families of independent fortune resident in the town.

Games.—The prevailing popular game of the parish is the Golf, for which the western links are peculiarly well adapted. The North Berwick Golf Club was established on the 8th May 1832, and is formed of noblemen and gentlemen from all parts of the country. The number of members is limited to 50, who are admitted by ballot; one black ball excludes, and the ballot must take place in the rotation of nomination, “before going to dinner.” The regular meetings are on the first Wednesday of May, June, July, and August. The Captain is elected annually in August, and the rules of the green are, with a slight exception, the rules of the Golf Club of St

Andrews. The meetings are generally well attended. This is a favourite amusement of the inhabitants throughout the year.

Poaching is rare. Smuggling prevailed here, forty or fifty years ago, to a great extent; but the means and the temptations are believed to be nearly extinct. A boat with eight men, belonging to the coast-guard, for the suppression of smuggling, is stationed at North Berwick; most of these men have families, and are of very exemplary character.

During the last three years there were 8 illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Foundry.—There is a foundry in the parish, where upwards of 20 workmen are employed in the manufacturing of steam-engines, and machines for making drain tiles. The latter is the invention of the Marquis of Tweeddale, for which he has a patent.

Agriculture.—For the following statements and calculations, I am mainly indebted to the kindness of Alexander Burn, Esq. Bonnington, and Andrew Richardson, Esq., North-Berwick Abbey. The total number of acres in the parish is 3456, of which 3282 are cultivated, and 174 in old grass and plantation and links,—perhaps 30 acres being in links.

Of the lands under tillage, about 200 acres, and likewise about 300 acres of old pasture, are in the possession of the owners; the remainder is occupied by tenants, on leases of nineteen years, and at rents from 7 to 12 bushels of wheat per acre, the value of which is ascertained partly by the first and partly by the second fiars, of the county, with the exception of about 400 acres let at four guineas per acre.

There are eleven tenants paying about L.12,000 per annum, though the sum varies annually with the prices of the fiars; and each tenant employs on an average seven ploughmen and other labourers.

The greatest proportion of the land consists of a strong clay, upon a close hard bottom; the remainder along the coast, consists of links, upon which the house proprietors of North Berwick have the exclusive privilege of grazing cows.

With a slight exception, the six course shift of cropping is generally adopted, viz. fallow, wheat, grass, oats, beans and pease, wheat; the land calculated for a four shift, being turnip, barley, or spring-wheat, grass, and oats.

The land intended for fallow is generally ploughed in winter; in spring it is ploughed across; it is then formed into ridges, the

dung afterwards applied, which is then, by another furrow, covered in ; and, should the weather permit, it gets an additional one before sowing, in order to kill any animals that may make their appearance ; and it is then sown about the middle of October. In March, grass seeds are sown amongst it, and harrowed in, occasionally only, rolled ; and the following year commonly pastured. In January the land is ploughed, and in March sown with oats. It is again ploughed in winter. In March, it is harrowed before drawing off the drills for a crop of beans. When that is finished, the dung is applied, the seed deposited, and finally both covered in. In summer, they are hand-hoed, the paring and grubbing plough put through them before the bean begins to blossom, and afterwards not unfrequently furrowed up by a double moulded plough. After removal of crop from the ground, it is ploughed and sown with wheat. The land for turnip is ploughed during winter. In spring, it is then reduced by frequent ploughings, harrowings, and rollings, when it is drawn off into drills, dung applied, drills reversed, then sown. Should the weather be favourable in producing a braird in the course of a month, the plough and hand-hoe are among them. Upon removal of the crop from the ground, it is ploughed, and sown with barley or spring wheat ; in the spring with grass seeds at same time ; then it is either pastured or cut for hay the following year, which is succeeded by a crop of oats, and this completes the rotation. The distribution of the land, under different modes of cultivation is as follows :—

Turnips about	-	-	.	200 acres annually grown.
Barley,	-	-	-	230
Wheat, upwards of	-	-	-	800
Oats,	-	-	-	500
Beans, pease, and tares, about	-	-	-	430
Potatoes,	-	-	-	80
Clover and rye-grass. upwards of	-	-	-	500

There is an assessment of L. 2 levied upon each ploughgate for the support of the poor, of which the landlord pays one-half. The sum of L. 2 is paid for every sixty acres as road money. There are $52\frac{1}{2}$ ploughgates in the parish.

The rate of grazing for the season is L. 6 for a cow, and about 10s. 6d. for a sheep.

Wages.—Farm-servants are generally paid in grain. The wages of a hind are 72 bushels of oats ; 18 of barley, 8 of beans, 1 pair of shoes ; L. 1 for lint ; cow's grass ; 1000 yards of potato ground, and a house, for which the master receives eighteen days work of a shearer in harvest ; the hind has leave to keep a pig. La-

bourers are paid 10s. per week in summer, and 9s. in winter; masons, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per day in summer, and 2s. 6d. to 3s. in winter; carpenters are paid about the same wages as masons.

Live-Stock.—From 300 to 400 cattle are purchased in autumn, of which about 250 are fattened upon turnips during winter, and the remainder are kept in the straw-yards through the winter, and fattened upon the grass during the following summer. A few are reared in the parish, principally of the short-horned breed. Generally, those purchased are of the north country breeds. About 1000 sheep are fed during the season. There are about 300 pigs reared annually, and chiefly sold to the fleshers in the neighbourhood, and to the farm-servants. Many are sent to the London market.

Manure, &c.—Lime as a manure has been of late years used only to a very limited extent, the ground having been already manured with it. Rape-cake has been very much used, both for wheat and turnip. Furrow draining, with tiles, is carried on to a considerable extent in the parish, and almost always at the expense of the tenant. The cost of draining, where the drains are put into every furrow, at a depth of 30 inches, is about L. 7, 7s. an acre.

Leases are always granted for 19 years.

The offices on the different farms are generally in good repair. The cottages for the farm-servants and labourers are, with few exceptions, too small, having only one apartment where all the family must sit and sleep. This system is much to be deplored. The bothy system has been introduced by some of the tenantry, but not with much success or general approbation. There are eight steam-engines in the parish; seven are used in driving the machinery of the thrashing-mills, the other engine is in the foundry at North Berwick. Entails and the non-residence of proprietors are among the great barriers to agricultural improvements.

Produce.—The following is supposed to be the amount of produce raised annually in the parish.

		Average of seven years.	
800	acres of wheat, at 4 quarters per acre, at	L. 2, 13s.	L. 8320
500	oats, at 6s. do.	L. 1, 4s.	4050
230	barley, at 6 do.	L. 1, 13s.	2194
430	beans, at 4 do.	L. 1, 13s. 7d.	2838
80	potatoes, at 34 bolls per acre, at 7s.	.	952
200	turnips, at L. 6,	.	1200
100	old grass, at L. 4,	.	400
560	one year's old grass, at L. 9,	.	4500
			<hr/> L. 24,454

Quarries.—There are only three quarries wrought to any extent; one at North Berwick Law, where excellent building stone

is procured. The other two are lime quarries; one at Rhodes, and the other on the Balgone estate.

Fisheries.—Fishing to a very limited extent only is carried on from the burgh. To remedy this deficiency, a joint stock fishing company is just established in North Berwick, with promising views of success, for the supply of the town and neighbourhood, and for the general curing of fish.

Navigation.—The harbour is secure and commodious; large sums, from time to time, have been expended in its enlargement and improvement; and though dry at low water, and somewhat difficult of access, it is considered very safe in consequence of its being a boomed harbour. There are nine vessels belonging to this port, of various burthens, four of which engage in foreign trade, amounting in all to 568 tons of old measure, and they are in constant employment. There has been considerable decrease of late years in the grain and lime trade; but there has been increased traffic in the exportation of turnips and potatoes, chiefly to the Newcastle and London markets. No foreign vessel stately trades to this seaport, but there is a considerable importation, occasionally of foreign rape and oil-cake, and crushed bones, for manure. The coals for the town and its neighbourhood are generally imported. The four largest vessels belonging to this port have been added to it during the last three years.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market, &c.—North Berwick is a royal burgh, with a market-place, and is duly supplied with all the necessaries and comforts of ordinary life. The population is of the usual description; but the resident gentry are here more numerous, perhaps, than is common in such small towns. There are two surgeons, and one bank;—and a branch of the Western Bank of Scotland is on the eve of being established. Besides the burgh officer, it has no other police. There is no village in the parish. There is a post-office subordinate to the office at Haddington; the post arrives daily about eleven in the forenoon, and departs at half-past twelve. There is a stage-coach to Edinburgh every lawful day, which leaves North Berwick at half-past seven in the morning, and reaches Edinburgh in three hours, and leaves Edinburgh in the afternoon at four: it is conducted with great propriety. Four carriers go to Edinburgh on their respective days, in the course of the week. The turnpike roads, and bridges, and fences, are in excellent condition; no canal or railroad.

Ecclesiastical State.—A church has been established at North Berwick from remote antiquity. St Baldred may have been its founder in the sixth century. It is shewn to have been established before the reign of David I. Under that monarch, Duncan the Earl of Fife, who died in 1154, founded the convent for Cistercian nuns, to whom he granted the church of North Berwick, “with its tithes and pertinents.” It was dedicated to St Andrew. There was an altar in it devoted to the Virgin Mary. It is a curious record of the olden time, that Agnes Fawlaw, wife of Robert Lauder of the Bass, with the consent of her husband, granted an annuity of ten merks from a tenement in Edinburgh, and five from a tenement in Leith, for supporting a chaplain to officiate at the Virgin Mary’s altar in St Andrew’s Kirk at North Berwick, which grant was confirmed in 1491 by James IV. This church was of considerable value; in the ancient *Taxatio* it is valued at 60 merks. It remained in the patronage of the nuns till the Reformation. It probably was then transferred, along with the grant of the nunnery, and much of its property, made by James VI. to Alexander Home, possessor of the manor,—all of which possessions were acquired by Lord President Dalrymple, and are enjoyed by his lineal descendant.—It is an original and single parish. The Auld Kirk, near the shore, with its surrounding cemetery, is in entire desolation. The present church was erected in 1770, on the foundation of a former one, said to have been built in 1670; and, with the exception of the old oak seat of the Dalrymple family in front, the interior was wholly renewed in 1819, and is all in excellent condition. It affords accommodation for 550; of course, there is great and evident deficiency of church accommodation for the population of the parish. The seats are allocated to the heritors and tenants, except half of the western gallery, which is allotted to the magistrates and council and burgesses of the town.—The church stands in a large square area, forming the parochial burying-ground, encompassed with rows of lofty, venerable, and wide-spreading elm trees. The solemn beauty of the scene excites universal observation. The church is conveniently placed for much the greater part of the population,—no house being farther distant than three miles. The present manse was built in 1824–5, and is peculiarly substantial and commodious, and is inferior to none in the kingdom. It is beautifully situated on a gentle elevation, in the centre of the glebe, and commands every view of the beautiful and grand scenery around it. The offices are excellent, numerous, and extensive. The glebe is some-

what more than 6 acres in extent, rich, and fertile ;—the stipend has comfortably progressed in amount. In 1755, it is stated at L. 72, 6s. 8d., in last Statistical Account it is stated, on an average, at L. 116. The stipend decreed on 4th February 1818, for crop and year 1817, is 18 chalders of victual ;—2 chalders of wheat, 42 bolls of oats, and the remainder, half meal, half barley, according to the highest fiars prices of the county,—with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for the communion elements. There is a Dissenting meeting-house of the United Associate Synod, erected in 1778, and rebuilt in 1832, whose minister is paid from the collections and the seat rents. The stipend is about L. 100. The present minister, the Rev. George Brown, has been minister for thirty years, son of the excellent Rev. John Brown of Whitburn, and grandson of the distinguished John Brown of Haddington, and is a man of much piety and usefulness.

It is estimated that of the stated population of the census in 1831, amounting to 1824, 1592 are under the pastoral superintendence of the Established Church, and 232 belong more immediately to the Dissenters. The number of communicants on the roll of the Established Church may be stated about 500.—There are four silver communion cups, which are believed to have descended from Episcopalian service to the Presbyterian Kirk. The inscriptions on them bear date 1670 ; but at least two of the cups bespeak, as we conceive, a much more remote antiquity ; these bear the simple inscription “ This cup pertaineth to the Church of North Berwick, 1670.” The other two, similar to each other, but of a somewhat different form from those which appear the more antique, bear respectively—“ Gifted to the Church of North Berwick by Mrs Barbara Young, relict of Archbald Douglas, some time Captain of Tomtallan, 1670.” “ Left in legacie to the Church of North Berwick, by Mr Henry Aikinheid, late Pastor therof, and performed by Archbald Riddel and James Rige his sones-in-law, 1670.” The ancient metal ewer for baptismal water, of elegant antique form, though sadly mutilated, and the iron chest, (very curiously formed,) for the reception and security of the pecuniary offerings at the church, are relics carefully preserved by the present minister ; and even the hour sand-glass, frail as it is, which was wont to regulate the eloquence and services of those long no more.*

* It may be noticed as a curious circumstance, that the living of North Berwick was in the possession of one family in regular succession for 130 years. In 1692, Mr Matthew Reid was ordained successor to Mr John Herbert, and survived to 1729. Mr Reid's daughter was married to Mr George Murray, assistant and successor to Mr Reid. Mr George Murray was succeeded by his son, Mr Matthew Murray, who, in

Church collections are occasionally made for religious and charitable objects, and these are suitable and liberal.

Education.—There are in the town, at the present time, four schools taught by male teachers, and three schools by female teachers. There is a parish school—and a burgh school built and endowed to remedy its deficiencies, and the others are supplementary to both. The most ordinary branches of tuition are taught in them, English reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. The parish school has the maximum salary, and the usual school fees, with the legal accommodation. But it is nearly deserted,—24 scholars only were present at the last presbyterial examination; consequently the amount of fees must be inconsiderable—and, from circumstances, the other emoluments are but trifling. Education is in the most unsatisfactory state. Some legislative enactment is imperatively called for to secure and increase the efficiency of the parochial institutions of our land, on which the intellectual, and moral, and literary character of our rural population are so early and mainly dependent.—There is a sub-parochial school in the neighbourhood of Tantallan, for the immediate locality, under the patronage of the chief heritor and the kirk-session, with a free school-house and dwelling, and a small glebe.—A Sabbath school is taught in the parish church in the evening, and is productive of much benefit.

Literature.—There is a subscription library of considerable value, which was established in 1827. It contains many of the best works in English literature, and is rapidly increasing. Already, there are more than 500 volumes. The town and parish are also gratuitously favoured with divisions of the East-Lothian Itinerating Library, under the direction and management of Mr Samuel Brown of Haddington, to whom the population of the county is under weighty obligations for his generous and unwearied exertions to promote their mental and moral improvement.

Friendly Societies.—There is a “Benefit Society” established in North Berwick, which serves the double purpose of providing aid in seasons of sickness and bereavement, and accumulating savings

his turn, was succeeded by his son, Mr George Murray, who died in 1822; when the present incumbent was translated from the parish of Stenton. The brief interval of the ministry of Dr Henry Hill, Professor of Greek at St Andrews, was a mere temporary arrangement, he holding the living till the late Mr George Murray, his nephew, was of age to obtain license for ordination to his father's church. Dr Henry David Hill was brother of Mrs Matthew Murray, and of the eminent Principal Hill of St Andrews.

The moderator's chair in the kirk-session is said to be one of the ancient oaken chairs brought from Tantallan Castle, on its final demolition.

in bank. Every member pays 1s. weekly, with 2d. for sick and funeral money. The sick money ensured to him is, for the first thirteen weeks, 5s. a-week, for the second thirteen, 3s., and for the remainder of the year, 1s. 6d. a-week. If a member dies, his heirs receive L. 2, 10s.; for a member's wife, L. 1, 10s. is paid; and 15s. for a member's child under twelve years of age. Each member pays 1s. at the end of the year to the treasurer. Its existence is annual. At the close of the year, the savings, with due interest, are paid, and the balance of sick and funeral money is distributed to the members. The arrangement has been pursued for many years, and has essentially promoted the industry, the comfort, and the independence of the people.—There is also the “North Berwick Benevolent Society,” established for the maintenance of two distinct funds,—the “*Funeral Fund*,” for allowances upon the death of members, their wives, or widows; the other the “*Cow Fund*,” for giving mutual relief and assistance to members losing their cow by death;—to either or both of which funds the members of the benevolent society may contribute. It “disclaims every thing that bears the name or appearance of charity;” and the allowances exigible, it is declared, “shall be claimed and paid as a right.” The whole is under wise and generous management, and continues to prove beneficial and praiseworthy.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of families receiving parochial aid during the last three years is 25, and of persons 32. The annual amount of contributions to the poor's funds has been an assessment on the heritors and tenants of L. 104, 10s. at the rate of L. 2 per ploughgate, the church collections about L. 15, an ancient mortification to the poor yielding L. 9, 3s. 4d., and the mortcloth fees. The highest relief to persons on the pauper roll has been L. 5, 14s. per annum, and the lowest L. 1, 16s. The highest individual monthly allowance is 8s. The gross annual sum paid to paupers for 1838 may be correctly stated at L. 95, with an additional sum of L. 9 for house rents, and L. 10 of occasional donations sessionally given to relieve temporary indigence. But claims are multiplying and enlarging, and the present assessment, though recently augmented, will not be able, probably, to meet the increasing and urgent claims of parochial necessity. Independent of necessary claims on public charity, however, it cannot be concealed that disinclination to enrolment as a pauper, formerly so strong, is now sadly decreased, and is still decreasing. Probably owing to the compulsory assessment, collections for the

poor on ordinary Sundays at the church are almost annihilated among the tenantry, and well nigh extinct among all but the higher classes, whose contributions are chiefly in silver. Such a change is, in a variety of views, to be regretted very seriously.

There are two permanent benefactions to the poor of this parish. The one is a mortification from Alexander Home of North Berwick, conveyed through Sir John Home, his executor, of 3300 merks, to the minister, elders, and deacons of the parish; the interest of which sum to be annually distributed by them among the poor. The kirk-session were, on a bond for this sum, duly infeofed in 1710 on the Abbey lands of the barony of North Berwick, by Lord President Dalrymple, and his eldest son, Sir Robert Dalrymple of Castleton; which bond is among the records of the kirk-session.—The other is the conjunct sum of L. 450, a later mortification usually styled the *Edwin Fund*, in reference to the benevolent source whence it originated. This sum was granted in 1771 to the poor inhabitants of the town and barony of North Berwick, in two bonds, one for L. 150, by Sir Hew Dalrymple, Bart. and the other for L. 300, by Charles Dalrymple, Esq. his brother,—the interest of which sum to be paid annually to the minister, elders, and magistrates of the parish and burgh, by the heir of the estate of North Berwick, in whom is vested the nomination of the individuals to receive the charity.

Prison.—There is a prison conjoined with the Town-Council Hall, consisting of one apartment for debtors, and two apartments beneath for criminal offenders, in tolerable condition, and supposed to be quite secure. No prisoner last year. The burgh officer is the jailor, who in his own person embodies the entire police of the burgh and parish of North Berwick.

Fairs.—There are two annual fairs,—one in the month of June, and the other in November, neither of any moment.

Inns, Alehouses.—It is to be recorded with deep regret, that, within the burgh of North Berwick, the system of free trade in the sale of spirits prevails, and the multiplication of licenses has reached an appalling extent. There are thirteen public-houses, to a population perhaps of 650, affording a public-house to every fifty persons, men, women, and children. Of these public-houses no fewer than eight are under the management of as many widows, whose authority over their visitors cannot be extreme. It is earnestly to be desired and hoped, that the magistrates will soon be deeply and duly impressed with the serious evils of their most

mistaken and delusive policy. Whisky is emphatically the curse of North Berwick, the fruitful source of most of its domestic miseries; and these are oftentimes of the most mournful, and bitter, and permanent character.* A better and different system prevails in the West Gate, which is the locality without the limits of the royalty. It is somewhat under the delegated surveillance of the kirk-session, whose certificate in recommendation for license is asked for the satisfaction of the Justices of the county. Here a population of perhaps 450 is amply satisfied with two licentiates. Except at Cantry Bay, kept by the keeper of the Bass, there is no other alehouse in the landward part of the parish,—a merciful privation to the peasantry.

Fuel.—The fuel is coal, brought to the harbour from Bönness, the coast of Fife, and Newcastle, principally for the use of the inhabitants of the town, at the average price of 14s. a ton for Scotch Great coal, and 17s. a ton for English. The landward part of the parish is supplied chiefly by land carriage from the parishes of Pencaitland and Tranent,—a distance of twelve or fourteen miles. The coals are very costly, and form here a very heavy burthen on the industry of the poor man.

April 1839.

PARISH OF PENCAITLAND.

PRESBYTERY OF HADDINGTON, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND
TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. A. MAKELLAR, D. D. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name, *Pen-caith-lan*, is supposed to be of Cambro-British origin, and to signify in that language, “the head or end of the narrow enclosure.” It may have received this name from the circumstance of its being situated near the end of the narrow valley, through which the Tyne flows in its descent from

* We have it stated on what is deemed authentic testimony, that within the burgh of North Berwick alone, upwards of 3000 gallons of whisky are sold in the course of a year—and perhaps above 700 more in the immediate suburb. What a melancholy source of impoverishment!

the hills to the sea. That stream, which divides the parish almost into two equal portions, is here but very inconsiderable. The ground rises from it on either side by a gentle acclivity, until it reaches nearly the same level.

Boundaries, Extent, &c.—The parish of Pencaitland is situated near the western extremity of the county of Haddington. It is bounded on the south and west, by Ormistoun; on the east, by Salton; and on the north, by Gladsmuir. It is rather more than 4 miles from west to east, and 3 from north to south.

The general aspect of this parish is destitute of any marked features; but it is throughout well enclosed, well cultivated, and agreeably diversified with fields, and meadows, and woods, which give to it a very pleasing appearance.

Climate.—The climate of this parish is believed to be more equable and salubrious than of some of the neighbouring parishes, which may be accounted for partly by the lay of the ground, and by its sheltered situation. The ground rises considerably, at some distance to the westward; and it is often observed, that when there is a good deal of rain in that quarter, it is quite fair in this place. The watery clouds that are seen advancing from the west often stop and divide when they come to the Roman camp, near Cranston, one portion being attracted by the Lammermoor-hills, and going off in that direction,—while the other is drawn away to the Forth, so that the small valley through which the Tyne flows frequently escapes altogether. The fact of the healthiness of this place is very much confirmed by the frequent cases of old age, which occur from time to time. Within the last twenty years, four or five individuals have died, each of whom exceeded the age of ninety, and not a few others who approached fourscore. This account, however, will not apply to the population employed in the collieries. Among them there are but few who exceed threescore and ten; and the greater numbers are cut off much earlier. This arises no doubt from the nature of the occupation in which they are engaged. Affections of the lungs are very common among them. There is one variety of these which claims some particular notice. It is known among themselves by the name of *the black spittle*. This disease is of a very peculiar character, and often proves the cause of premature death to not a few of the miners employed in the coal-works in this district. Owing to the thinness of the coal seams, and the confined space in which the miners work,

the supply of atmospheric air must be very defective. This speedily impairs the healthy action of perspiration. Vigorous men, after a short employment in such work, are sometimes permanently affected with difficulty of breathing, and frequent cough, accompanied by an expectoration of an inky fluid, which increases in quantity as the disease advances. This fluid resembles finely ground black paint, and seems to be produced by breathing an atmosphere heavily charged with carbonic acid gas. At an advanced stage of the disease, the expectoration is sometimes very considerable, amounting even to twelve ounces in twenty-four hours. This disease, after it has established itself, is seldom removed. It maintains its existence, and spreads its influence till death closes the scene, by putting a period to the patient's sufferings. It is to be hoped that, ere long, this remarkable disease, connected with the operations of coal-mining, will engage the serious attention of physiologists, and that the Giver of all good may be pleased to guide to the discovery of means which may serve to prevent its occurrence, or to effect its cure.

Geology and Mineralogy.—Coal and lime are the prevailing minerals in this parish. There are also several quarries of excellent freestone. The great coal range of the Lothians appears to terminate here. There are two seams wrought at present. The upper or chew coal seam is of a rich but soft quality, lying about 60 feet from the surface, and from 3 to 4 feet 8 inches in thickness. It lies imbedded between a stratum of fine clay and grey sandstone. The under or splint coal, which varies from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet in thickness, is generally found between fine clay and a freestone pavement, and at the depth of from 60 to 70 feet below the upper seam. When a shaft is put down, and the pit completely formed, main roads are broken off in two or three directions, from which rooms (as they are termed) or places about 6 yards wide, are formed for the colliers to work in. When they have cut or quarried the coal, it is transported to the pit-bottom in carts or hurleys, propelled upon iron-railways, by young persons of from eight to fourteen years of age. From the nature of their employment these are called putters. The coal is then raised to the mouth of the pit by a steam-engine. There are at present employed in the different coal-works in this parish about 90 men, and the same number of women, besides 30 or 40 children. The colliers work on an average about eight hours per day, and five days in the week. There is a large breadth

of carboniferous limestone in this parish, which is wrought to considerable advantage. A great variety of the fossil remains that frequently characterize this class of rocks, is to be met with. These are not confined to the quarries, but are sometimes to be found in the fields. The most common of the fossil shells belong to the genera *Echinus*, *Productus*, *Terebratula*, and *Orthoceratite*.

Botany.—As the ground in this parish is for the most part arable, any interesting plants to be met with are chiefly confined to the woods. In these and along the banks of the Tyne, the following plants are not uncommon.

Tragopogon pratensis
Listera ovata
—— *nidus avis*
Solanum nigrum

Epilobium hirsutum
Circæa lutetiana
Valeriana officinalis
Scirpus lacustris

Verbascum nigrum
Parnassia palustris
Juniperus communis.

The old trees in the grounds of Winton, and in the woods of Fountainhall, are covered with splendid specimens of Fungi, belonging to the genus *Polyphorus*, and in the same places are also to be found a few specimens of the rare and beautiful *Fistulina hepatica*.

There are occasionally discovered on the upper layers of the coal wrought at Huntlaw in this parish, distinct impressions of leaves belonging to plants not now growing in this country, but which are to be found in more southern regions.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

This parish is very ancient. During the reign of William the Lion, the manor of Pencaithlan was possessed by Everard de Pencaithlan, who assumed a surname from his place. Everard granted to the monks of Kelso the church of his manor of Pencaithlan, with the tithes and other rights belonging to it in pure alms for the salvation of his Lord, King William, from whom it is probable he obtained the lands. In the ancient *Taxatio* the church of Pencaithlan was rented at forty marks. Before the accession of Robert the Bruce, the church of Pencaithlan had ceased to belong to the monks of Kelso; from what cause is not known. The manor of Pencaitland, soon after the succession wars, came into the possession of John de Maxwell, younger brother of Sir Eustan Maxwell of Carlaverock, who granted an annuity, from his lands of Pencaitland to the monks of Dryburgh, besides the advowson of the church of Pencaitland, with the chapel of Paystoun and the church lands, tithes, and profits. The church of Pencaitland and the chapel of Paystoun remained with the canons of Dryburgh till the Reformation. The cure was served by a Vicar.

Eminent Men.—David Calderwood, an eminent divine and ecclesiastical historian, was, in the latter years of his life, minister of this parish. He lived during a very eventful period in the History of Scotland, and experienced largely the vicissitudes which characterized those times. His attachment to Presbytery was enlightened and conscientious. This led him to oppose with great firmness the attempts that were made to introduce Episcopacy into Scotland. A rather amusing account is given of a conversation which King James had with him, when summoned to appear before the commission court that sat at St Andrews. Mr Calderwood maintained his own principles with great propriety, and resisted all the attempts of the King to win him by persuasion or overawe him by authority. For this conduct he was first imprisoned, and then sent into banishment. The country to which he removed was Holland, where he resided for six years. While there, he published in 1623 his celebrated treatise, entitled “*Altare Damascenum*,” the object of which was to expose the insidious means by which the polity of the English Church had been intruded upon Scotland. After the death of King James, Calderwood returned to Scotland, and resided at Edinburgh in a private manner for many years, compiling a history of the Church of Scotland from the death of James V. to that of James VI. He attended the celebrated assembly at Glasgow in the year 1638,—where his acquaintance with the constitution and records of the Church were of great service. About this time he resumed his proper functions as a minister, and was settled in this parish, where he continued to labour faithfully till a short time before his death. He was a member of the committee for drawing up the Directory for public worship. An abstract of his Church History was published under the care of the General Assembly.

Mr Robert Douglas, another minister of this parish, was a very distinguished man. The first public notice taken of him is as chaplain to a brigade of auxiliaries sent over to Germany from Scotland, to aid the Protestant cause under Gustavus Adolphus. He continued a considerable time with the army of that celebrated commander, who said of him, that Mr Douglas might have been counsellor to any Prince in Europe; for prudence and knowledge, he might be Moderator to a General Assembly; and for military skill said he, “I would very freely trust my army to his conduct.”

Mr Douglas returned to Scotland, and was one of the ministers of Edinburgh, in 1641. Two years after this time, he was ap-

pointed one of the Commissioners from Scotland to attend the famous Westminster Assembly, but, owing to some cause or other, was prevented from attending. He frequently preached before the Scotch Parliament during the course of the civil war, “and shunned not to declare the whole counsel of God.” He laboured much for the restoration of Charles II. to the throne of his ancestors, and was appointed to preach at the ordination of that monarch, at Scone on the 1st January 1651. It was said of him in his own day, “that few contributed more to the Restoration than Mr Douglas, and derived less benefit from it.” Subsequently to this period, he was settled minister of this parish under the Indulgence, and died about the year 1673, full of years and of honours.

Another person of distinction connected with this parish, was Sir John Lauder, Lord Fountainhall. He was an eminent lawyer and statesman, and not less remarkable for his zealous attachment to the Protestant faith, than for his exemplary conduct in the various relations of life. His industry as a writer on subjects connected with his profession was very great, and the fruits of his labours are justly regarded as most valuable. Besides the two volumes published under the title of “Fountainhall’s Decisions,” he left three quarto and ten folio volumes of manuscripts, and there is reason to believe from his references, that some others were lost.

James Hamilton, son of Lord Presmennan, was appointed one of the Judges of the Court of Session, and also a Lord of Justiciary by the title of Lord Pencaitland. Although he confined himself almost entirely to the duties of his own profession, yet the worth of his character was extensively known and highly estimated. It seems to have been in the person of this gentleman, that the connection of his family with the estate of Pencaitland was formed—a connection which reflected great honour on their own character, and that has proved to be a signal benefit to this place. It would be improper to pass over without some notice, George Seton, fifth and last Earl of Winton. He was eminent for his high rank in society, for the antiquity of his family, and for his chivalrous but disastrous attachment to the House of Stuart. He joined in the rebellion in 1715, was taken prisoner at Preston, tried for high treason, sentenced to be executed, and his estates and honours forfeited to the Crown. He found means to escape out of the Tower of London, and fled to Rome, where he died unmarried, about the age of 70.

“Thus terminated one of the principal houses in Britain, after subsisting for upwards of 600 years in East Lothian, and laying

the foundation of several families of great distinction through the rest of Scotland."

Landed Proprietors.—The Right Honourable Lady Ruthven is the principal proprietor and patron of the parish. Her Ladyship's family (the Hamiltons of Pencaitland) have been long in possession of that estate, to the great advantage of their tenantry, and all connected with them. Andrew Fletcher, Esq. of Salton; Patrick Dudgeon, Esq. of East Craigs; Sir Thomas Dick Lauder, Bart. of Fountainhall; Mrs Johnston Brown of Milton; and the Right Honourable the Earl of Hopetoun,—are the other chief proprietors.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of baptisms and marriages is 1598, and of deaths, 1616. From the above dates to the present time, these registers appear to have been kept, respectively, with great correctness, with the exception of a period of fifty years in the register of marriages, which is wanting. The minute book of the kirk-session, from 1633, and the cash book of transactions in managing the poor's funds, from 1729 till this time, bear marks of having been kept with much attention. A register of certificates granted to persons in communion with the Church when leaving this parish, and also a book containing inventories of the effects of paupers taken at the time that they were put upon the roll, have been kept since 1817.

Antiquities.—In the village of Wester Pencaitland, there is an old cross, the history of which is not known. It may, however, (as frequently happens in England,) have marked the distinction of a market-place. This idea is countenanced by a notice that was published in the Edinburgh Gazette, from Monday, 21st, till Thursday, 24th August 1699, in the following terms: "This is to give notice that two new fairs are to be holden at Wester Pencaitland, in the sherifffdom of Haddington, for horse, nolt, sheep, and all sorts of linen and woollen cloth. The first upon the 4th of October, and the other on the 8th day of June yearly, free of customs for three years."

III.—POPULATION.

In 1759, the population amounted to	910
1791,	925
1801,	970
1811,	1033
1821,	1145
1831,	1166

From this statement it appears that the population has not fluctuated much in point of numbers for the last eighty years. There is a small increase from the time of the census in 1831.

Average of marriages for each of the last 7 years,	-	10
of births,	-	90
of deaths,	-	24
In 1891, there were inhabited houses,	-	256
Families,	-	259
Employed in agriculture,	-	92 families.
In trade or manufactures,	-	29
Other families,	-	138
Males,	-	557
Females,	-	609

The general character of the inhabitants of this parish is highly respectable. Of course there are here, as well as in other places, some "that walk disorderly," but for the most part the people are diligent in their various callings, moral in their habits, and regular in their attendance on the ordinances of religion. A marked improvement in the observance of the Sabbath has taken place within the last twenty years. Still, however, it is greatly to be desired that there should be more decided evidence of the spirit and power of true godliness.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

This parish, as we have seen, possesses some valuable minerals in addition to the productions of the soil.

The amount of land may be estimated at 3800 acres Scots, which may be divided as follows:

In tillage,	3400
permanent artificial pasture,	160
wood,	240
	—3800

There are sixteen farms in the parish, varying from 160 to 360 acres in extent, besides a few detached portions of land on which there are no buildings.

Leases and Rents.—The duration of leases for the most part is nineteen years, agreeably to the general practice in this county. The total rental of corn and grass land may amount to L. 6400. The rent of land in tillage varies from L. 1, 5s. to L. 3, and may average about L. 1, 15s. Pasture land brings from L. 1, 10s. to L. 2, 10s. per acre Scots. The rents are almost entirely paid in money. The dwelling-houses of the farmers are suitable to their condition, and generally very comfortable. The farm-offices are also well adapted to the improved state of agriculture. It is gratifying to find that greater attention is paid to the comfort of the farm-servants. Their houses for the most part consisted formerly of but one apartment, with bare walls, and all open to the roofing. Of late years, however, a considerable improvement has taken place in the style of these dwellings. This is the case over the whole parish, but especially on the estate of the Right Honourable Lady Ruthven, the principal heritor. Each one of these houses,

lately built upon her Ladyship's estate, is provided with three apartments, one for a kitchen and place of sleeping, another exclusively for a sleeping apartment, and the third for the produce of the dairy and household necessities. These apartments are all plastered on the walls and ceiling, and, in other respects, very comfortable. This increase of accommodation must have a very beneficial effect not only on the health and comforts of the peasantry, but also on the delicacy and propriety of their domestic intercourse.

The lands are judiciously subdivided and inclosed for the most part with thorn hedges, which, upon the whole, are kept in good order.

Live-Stock.—Owing to the high price of live-stock for some years back, the attention of the farmer has been more directed to this branch of rural economy. A considerable number of cattle are now reared and fattened. The sheep stock in general are not reared in the parish, but bought in at the spring and autumn fairs. The total number (besides lambs) may amount to 70 or 80 scores. They are principally sent to the Edinburgh market.

Husbandry.—A considerable portion of the soil here is unfavourable to the cultivation of turnips and other green crops. Fallowing is therefore an indispensable part of the course of cropping. The rotation generally followed is, what is called, the six-shift course. The application of lime to the soil has greatly fallen off for a number of years back. The favourite mode of improvement at present is by tile-draining. This operation is carried on vigorously in this parish, and the beneficial effects of it are very manifest. Steam-engines are coming into use for the thrashing of corn, which relieves the horses of the severest part of their labour, and at the same time proves a considerable saving to the farmer.

Produce.—The gross amount of raw produce may be estimated as follows :—

Wheat,	.	.	.	L. 6360
Barley,	.	.	.	1850
Oats,	.	.	.	5750
Pease and beans,	.	.	.	1100
Turnips and potatoes,	.	.	.	850
Hay, (cultivated)	..	.	.	800
Pasture grass,	.	.	.	1150
Do. permanent,	.	.	.	300
Thinnings of woods and felling of timber,	.	.	.	700
Coal mines,	.	.	.	7000
Lime quarries,	.	.	.	700
Gardens,	.	.	.	230
				———— L. 26,790

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns.—The market-towns chiefly resorted to are Haddington and Dalkeith. But grain and cattle are also frequently sent to the Grassmarket of Edinburgh.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is a very venerable and picturesque structure. One part of it, called the Pencaitland Aisle, from its form and style of architecture, must have been built in the days of Popery. The other and larger portion was erected in the year 1631. It is still in excellent preservation, and very comfortable as a place of worship, having lately received a complete repair. It is situated in the centre of the parish, and therefore very convenient for the attendance of the people, who are, upon the whole, regular in the practice of church-going, and attentive to the preaching of the word. The number of Dissenters of all ages does not exceed 20, and of these some frequently attend the parish church.

Through the kindness of the heritors, the manse is in excellent condition, and very commodious. The glebe, along with the garden, and site of manse and offices, contains rather more than six Scotch acres. The land is of good quality. The stipend consists of 70 bolls, 3 firlots, wheat; 75 bolls, 2 firlots, 1 peck, barley; 115 bolls, 1 firlot, 1 peck, oats; with L. 3, 13s. 7½d. of money.

Education.—There are three schools in this parish. The parochial school is in the village of Wester Pencaitland. It is well attended, and well taught. The average number of scholars in winter is 70, and in summer, 65. The usual branches of education in country schools are taught here, with some of the higher branches. The schoolmaster has the maximum salary, and is well accommodated with a house, and garden, and school-room.

There is another school in the village of Easter Pencaitland for instructing girls in the elementary principles of education, and teaching them needle-work. This school was established by the late Mrs Hamilton Campbell of Pencaitland, whose estimable qualities rendered her very dear to her friends, and whose memory will long be cherished as a benefactress to this place.

There is a third school in the village of Newtown, that is chiefly attended by the children of the colliers. As these children from an early age are more or less engaged in work, this school labours under great disadvantages from the irregularity of their attendance. Nevertheless, it is in a respectable state, and proves a great benefit to that place. The teacher receives certain gratuities from Lady Ruthven and the gentleman who rents the coal; but he is chiefly supported by the school-fees.

On the Lord's day there are assembled in the different schools, either before or after the time of public worship, about 130 children, for the purpose of receiving spiritual instruction. They are

taught by the regular teachers, assisted by others who cheerfully join with them in sowing the good seed of the kingdom in the minds of those young ones, trusting that, through God's blessing, it will take root and bring forth fruit unto everlasting life.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of poor on the roll who regularly receive assistance is 82. The funds for their relief are derived from the stated Sabbath collections, the interest of certain sums bequeathed to the kirk-session for behoof of the poor,—the mortcloth dues, and an assessment on the heritors and tenants. The average allowance to each pauper is rather more than L. 4, 10s. The disposition on the part of the poor to seek relief is on the increase. Aged parents wish to ease their children, and children to be freed from the obligation to help their parents. There is, within the last few years, a strong tendency towards a state of things that is inconsistent both with the feelings of nature and with the law of Christ. It is proper, however, to state, that there are some honourable exceptions.

Inns.—There are three public-houses in this parish, and one store where malt liquors are sold, to be used off the premises.

Fuel.—There are three coal-mines wrought in this parish, so that the inhabitants have access to that necessary of life at a moderate price.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

While it affords great cause of thankfulness that the inhabitants of this parish are so generally distinguished for propriety of conduct and regularity of attendance on the public ordinances of religion, yet there is one exception of rather a serious character. It is no uncommon thing for married women in the lower classes to be remiss in their attendance on the House of God. Of course, it is admitted that there are times and circumstances in the condition of families, when the mothers cannot be absent from them without inconvenience, or perhaps injury. The notice here taken does not apply to those occasions, but rather to times when there is reason to fear that absence from church proceeds from coldness or carelessness in the things of God. Neither is such remissness peculiar to this parish. On the contrary, it is believed that it prevails to a greater extent in some other parishes in this county, and perhaps also in other parts of Scotland. It is not difficult to form some estimate of the injurious consequences to the well-being of society, and to the prosperity of religion, which must flow from this source. If the mothers in Israel do not themselves repair to the pool of ordinances, that they may drink of its health-giving

and refreshing waters, how can they be disposed or qualified to instil into the minds of their children those principles that will bring forth the fruits of holy and happy living. This marked notice is taken of an evil which threatens much injury to the rising generation, in the hope that other pastors and other elders in our Church may be stirred up to counteract and correct it by all the means in their power.

May 1839.

PARISH OF OLDHAMSTOCKS.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ROBERT MOORE, A. M. MINISTER. *

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of the parish is derived from the name of the kirk town : and the ancient appellation of the village was usually written in charters, Aldhamstoc and Aldhamstok. These forms of the word are evidently derived from the Saxon *Aldham*, the old habitation, and *stoc*, a place.

Extent, &c.—This parish lies six miles east of the town of Dunbar. It extends from the German Ocean on the east into Lammermuir ; and is bounded on the north and west by the parish of Innerwick ; on the south by that of Cockburnspath. Its length from north-east to south-west is about 6 English miles, and its breadth from north-west to south-east from 2 to 3 miles.

The face of the country presents a succession of little hills gradually rising about each other, and receding from the shore.

Soil.—The soil is generally sharp and dry ; very fertile towards the sea, but at a distance from the shore, barren and heathy. Some account of the Geology of this parish will be found under the General Observations on the County.

There is a seam of coal in the parish, but it has not been wrought.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

“ The church of Oldhamstocks is ancient. In the ancient Taxatio, it was rated at the high value of 60 marks. In Bagimont’s Roll it was rated at L. 10. This church never belonged to any monastery ; the patronage of the rectory seems to have continued with the lord of the manor, who cannot be easily traced on so doubtful a frontier : Oldhamstocks appears not among the manors or baronies of Haddington constabulary in the tax-roll of 1613 ; and from this circumstance we may infer that it had been long

* Drawn up from Notes furnished by different individuals.

merged in the barony of Dunglass. After various successions, the patronage of the church of Oldhamstocks became invested in Hunter of Thurston. On the 28th of August 1296, Thomas de Huntingour, the parson of Oldhamstock, swore fealty to Edward I. at Berwick, and was thereupon restored to his rectory.”*

Land-owners.—The principal land-owners in the parish are, Sir James Hall of Dunglass, Bart.; James Hunter, Esq. of Thurston; Thomas Dods, Esq. of Statencleugh; and James Balfour, Esq. of Whittinghame.

III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1801,	-	575
1821,	-	725
1831,	-	720
Number of families in the parish,	-	152
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	88
in trade, manufactures or handicraft,	-	32

One or two small boats belong to Bilsdean creek, and are chiefly employed in catching lobsters.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages. The villages in the parish are Oldhamstocks and Bilsdean.

Church and Schools.—The minister’s stipend, on an average of the seven years from 1829 to 1835, inclusive, amounts to L. 297, 15s. 6d.† There are 3 schools in the parish. The parochial school is situate in the village of Oldhamstocks. The salary of the master is L. 25, 15s. and his fees amount to about L. 19 a year: he has also about L. 6 a year from other sources. In the other schools, only the ordinary branches are taught. All the people in the parish have been taught to read, and all the young can write; and there are very few who are not also taught the common rules of arithmetic.

Poor.—

The number of poor in the parish of Oldhamstocks, on the average of the years 1835–6–7 is, on permanent roll,

	-	11	
lunatics,	-	2	
receiving occasional relief,	-	2½†	
		In all	15½
The funds distributed; permanent poor, (average)	-		L. 33 4 0
lunatics,	-	-	50 0 0
occasional poor,	-	-	2 16 8
education,	-	-	0 14 0
			<hr/> L. 86 14 8
Received from church door collections,	L. 19 7 11		
assessment,	- 78 8 3		
Total funds,	<hr/>	L. 97 16 2	

* Chalmers’ Caledonia.

† Farther particulars concerning the ecclesiastical state, &c. will be presented in the tables to be appended to the General Observations on the County.

‡ Occasional poor, 1835, 2; 1836, 2; 1837, 4; average 2½.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE COUNTY OF HADDINGTON.*

HADDINGTONSHIRE is situated between $55^{\circ} 46' 10''$ and $56^{\circ} 4'$ of north latitude, and between $2^{\circ} 8'$ and $2^{\circ} 49'$ longitude west from London. It is bounded by Mid-Lothian on the west; Berwickshire on the south; the German ocean on the east; and by the Frith of Forth on the north and north-west. It is nearly 25 miles in length from Ravenshaugh burn on the west to Dunglass burn on the east, and being something like the form of a triangle on each side of that line, its greatest distance from it to the south in the parish of Fala is 9 miles, and its greatest distance to the north, in the parish of Dirleton, is 9 miles, which gives 224 square miles, or 114,688 acres Scotch measure, as the superficies of the whole county, and of which 82,184 are known to be arable. It takes its name from Haddington, the county town, which is pleasantly situated on the river Tyne, near its centre. The county is generally spoken of as East Lothian, but that name properly refers to the arable lands only, the rest of the shire being composed of part of the Lammermuir-hills, which stretch along its southern border. It was long merely a constabulary, and subject to the jurisdiction of the Sheriff of Edinburgh, and it is still occasionally mentioned under that designation; but in the first act of James VII. it is considered a distinct shire, and has continued an independent sheriffdom since the Revolution.

For many years, the county formed part of the Saxon kingdom of Northumberland, but it was annexed to Scotland by Malcolm II. in A. D. 1020. From that period till 1296, it is said to have enjoyed comparative tranquillity, and to have made considerable progress in agricultural improvement; but the sanguinary wars that commenced then, regarding the succession to the Scottish throne, desolated the county to nearly the middle of the following century. During the fifteenth century, it also repeatedly suf-

* Drawn up by Robert Hope, Esq. Fentonbarus.

ferred severely from the turbulence and lawless ambition of its nobles. In 1650, it was the theatre of the defeat and slaughter of the Scotch army by Oliver Cromwell; and again in 1745, its soil was polluted with blood by the infatuated politicians of that unhappy period. But fortunately, since that time, it has enjoyed uninterrupted tranquillity, when every circumstance connected with its domestic and rural economy have been in a state of steadily progressive improvement.

Topographical Appearances.—East Lothian presents a finely diversified landscape when viewed from the adjoining hills of Lammermuir. From the Garleton-hills, near its centre, the prospect is likewise interesting and beautiful. From that position the inequalities of the surface are more discernible; and it is seen that, although the country rises from the sea shore to its southern boundary, yet that the ascent is not uniform, but generally by ridges of gently swelling undulations, and almost entirely stretching in an east and westerly direction. The first of these ridges from the sea commences with Gulane-hill, in the parish of Dirleton, and, stretching eastward through the parishes of North Berwick and Whitekirk, embraces the entire northern angle of the county. The second distinctly marked ridge has the Garleton-hills for its centre, and extends west into Mid-Lothian, and east into the parish of Prestonkirk, where it terminates near the sea. All the rest of the county has a pretty regular and gentle ascent to the south, but generally composed of easy swells of the surface, and stretching from east to west with hardly a single exception. North Berwick Law and Traprain Law are conspicuous objects in the topography of the district. They are seven miles distant from each other, and rise singly in the open plain, the former a beautifully shaped conical hill to the height of 800 feet, and the other to 700 feet above the level of the sea.

Hydrography.—There is nothing particularly deserving of notice in the hydrography of the county, as, from its geographical position, and limited extent, all its streams are necessarily of a very short course, and trifling dimensions. The Peffer is a small sluggish burn or stream, that runs through a tract of flat alluvial soil, and discharges its waters into the sea, the one-half by the west at Aberlady, the other half by the east in the parish of Whitekirk. Its course altogether is about ten miles, and it drains the valley stretching along the southern border of the three parishes that constitute the northern angle of the district. From appear.

ances in the strata, it is probable that the sea continued to flow through the bed now occupied by the Peffer, after both sides of it had become dry land, when, of course, the ground to the north would form an island. The Tyne is by far the largest stream in county, yet its course is so short, and its waters so limited, as hardly to deserve the name of river. It rises in Edinburghshire, and running eastward through nearly the centre of East Lothian, a level fertile district, to which it is highly ornamental, it falls into the sea at Tynninghame, after a course of little more than twenty miles. Besides enlivening the landscape, it is at the same time found highly convenient, indeed valuable, by the number of mills it puts in motion during its course, and likewise by its effectually draining all the county to the south of the Garleton ridge already spoken of. Salton and Gifford waters, as the streams are named, are tributaries to the Tyne, by draining into it all the south-west section of the county. Beltonford-burn is the only other stream in the district worthy of notice. It rises in the parish of Garvald, among the Lammermuir-hills, and, after a north-eastern course of about eight miles, falls into the sea a little to the west of Dunbar. It is but a trifling streamlet, of a few yards broad even at its mouth; yet its banks are distinguished by some of the sweetest scenery in the county, as at Beil, for instance, the elegant mansion of Mrs H. N. Ferguson, where nature and art united have done so much to adorn and beautify the landscape.

Geology.—The geology of the county presents a field of inquiry deeply interesting to the philosopher, and of profound contemplation to the partially informed, as well as to the man of science or general learning. It can hardly be said to have as yet been studied with reference to agriculture, notwithstanding of its intimate connection with that art, and its direct influence in determining the character of the husbandry of every nation, wherever the business is properly understood. It is therefore particularly deserving of notice, when treating of a district that owes so much to its agriculture. The county exhibits in very marked features two leading geological divisions within its boundaries: 1st, The Lammermuirs, composed of *transition strata*, and chiefly those of neptunian or aquatic formation. These hills stretch from east to west along the entire southern border of the county, and form nearly a fifth part of its superficial contents. They are from 500 to upwards of 1700 feet in height, and are consequently unfitted for grow-

ing corn with advantage ; besides, their general steepness, and the rugged and barren nature of the soil, render cultivation for the most part out of the question. At Fassney water, there is a very interesting display of neptunian and plutonian transition rocks, which are described in the Memoirs of the Wernerian Natural History Society, and in Mr Cunningham's prize essay, published in the seventh volume of the Wernerian Society's Memoirs. Pasturage is the natural purpose to which they are fitted, and to which they are found admirably adapted, as shown by the healthy stock of sheep that are annually sold to be fed in more genial climates. In the glens and hollows, the soil composed of the debris washed from the hills is found generally dry and fertile, and produces oats, turnips, and potatoes of excellent quality.

It is perhaps impossible to determine whether or not the Lammermoor range of hills had attained their present elevation, when the adjoining low country to the north was immersed in the depths of the ocean. But the probability is, that they then formed a portion of an extensive continent, comparatively little elevated above the level of the sea, and which yielded that luxuriant vegetation that now forms the rich coal-fields on the western part of the county ; and, that when the present arable district was lifted up to its present position, these hills, too, felt the effects of the movement, and had their foundations elevated in the general convulsion, by a pressure from below, and laterally, with a force of that tremendous magnitude which the human faculties can never fairly comprehend.

2dly, There appears to be no difference of opinion among geologists, regarding the real character of the low lands of the county, or of what, strictly speaking, is denominated East Lothian, as these are allowed on all hands to be of the secondary formation. The old red sandstone, which may be considered the basis of that formation, rests on the transition strata. The rock is distinctly seen at different places on the sea coast, and is known to flank the Lammermoor-hills from the west to the eastern extremity of the county. It is considered the lowest of the carboniferous formation, and on which, throughout the district, rest various of the strata of the series consisting of limestone, coal, fire-clay, with ironstone, clay, shales, and all their alternating sandstones peculiar to the period. The only exception, if such it is, to the district being entirely of secondary strata, arises from the

trap rock that occupies a portion of its surface, as that rock has obviously burst through the entire strata after even the most recent of it had been deposited. It is impossible to form any estimate of the length of time that has elapsed since the country was raised from the bottom of the ocean. Yet it is extremely probable that it took place at the same period of the trap irruption. And it is almost obvious to ocular demonstration, that after the movement had commenced, at least after the highest lands of the district had begun to emerge from the sea, that the motion had been steadily progressive, whatever the rate may have been at which it proceeded, until the land and sea had each attained their present respective positions. At the same time, there are certain circumstances that distinctly show, such as the accumulation of particular kinds of diluvium on the eastern sides of the trap hills, that the lifting up of the ground had not been instantaneous, like what is experienced in an earthquake. Although such is the fact, as applicable to the district as a whole, when speaking of its being lifted from the bottom of the ocean, yet there is one exception which, although of a limited description, is deserving of notice, as it shows clearly there has been a second movement, perhaps in the subsiding of the sea, but more probably in the lifting up of the dry land. That fact is distinctly visible on the sea shore in the parish of Dirleton, where the outline of the ancient beach is clearly discernible in some places more than a mile from the sea, and the new, or at least more recent land is apparently thirty feet above the present high water-mark. It is curious that the south side of the same parish, in the vale of Peffer, affords indications, although not so distinctly marked, of the same interesting circumstance. A very considerable portion of the soil in the centre of that parish rests on trap rock, which renders it more probable that the whole parish has been elevated, than merely the narrow strip around its margin.

There is a difference of geological structure in the arable portion or low lands of the county, which, although of a minor character, may warrant its description under three separate heads or sections, as that diversity extends to both the natural structure of the land, and also to the system of husbandry suitable to each. The south-eastern portion, extending from Oldhamstocks parish west to Garvald, and including the parishes of Dunbar, Innerwick, Spot, Stenton, and Whittinghame, may be considered as forming the

first of these sections, and which may be designated the red sandstone district. The space occupied by the sandstone strata itself, where it has been lifted to the surface, is comparatively limited, and the rock at its disruption is either generally covered with the diluvium brought from a little distance, or its disintegration is so complete as to offer no obstruction to cultivation. But, besides that space itself, almost the whole adjacent lower grounds to the north and eastward of the rock are covered with diluvium principally of the sandstone, its debris and rougher fragments having been carried by the current of the superincumbent waters, and spread over the less elevated portion of the original strata. And to such a depth have these materials been accumulated in various situations, that they actually constitute something like a new formation. There are, however, parts of this section, and especially near its western confines, where a considerable mixture of clay is to be found in the ground, and which, consequently, confers a different character on it, as well as a difference in its value, and the nature of its produce. The greater proportion, however, by far of the surface of the parishes mentioned is composed of the sandstone diluvium, mixed to a greater or less extent with the other materials furnished by the disrupted strata of secondary formation, and which constitutes what is denominated a sandy loam, a soil naturally fitted to become, what much of it actually now is, a tract of the most fertile land in Scotland.

Limestone is found near the eastern extremity of the district, but confined to a comparatively limited spot, composed entirely of the original strata. Trap rock is also found to a trifling extent, but chiefly within the sea beach or near to it. Clay fit for tile-making is apparently restricted to one spot on the sea coast, to the west a little of Dunbar. There are no other minerals known to exist in the district.

The second section comprehends the parishes of Gifford and Morham, and from these, and from the Garleton-hills to the westward to the boundary of the county, the surface of much of that district is tolerably level, the strata having been comparatively less disturbed and dislocated than some other parts of the country. Throughout a considerable portion of it, the soil has consequently been formed on beds of clay, and similar materials, more nearly approaching to the original strata than the soil of the land to the eastward. The action of the atmosphere, through the lapse

of ages, has no doubt greatly modified the stubborn character of the original surface ; but much of it will long continue to show the natural barrenness of the undisturbed strata of lands of the epoch to which it belongs. Along the sea shore, as also in different limited tracts in the interior, the soil is of, what has already been described, diluvial origin,—being the less adhesive materials of the previous strata washed from the higher into the lower localities, while the ground had been covered with water. The land of such situations is consequently of good quality, and well calculated for all the purposes of modern husbandry. In the higher and south-west corner of the district, the old red sandstone makes its appearance to a limited extent, when the land covered and mixed with its debris, like what occurs elsewhere, forms the earliest and richest soil of any in its neighbourhood. Had the rock, however, been lifted to the surface in its original horizontal position, it would, in respect to its productive powers, have remained in a state of comparative barrenness ; whereas, in being lifted up, it has been so far twisted and dislocated, as to have enabled the superincumbent mass of waters to break it up, and spread abroad its fragments in a rougher or more comminuted state, and which are everywhere found so highly favourable in promoting a plentiful and vigorous vegetation. This section comprehends a portion of the coal-measures that extend westward into Mid-Lothian, and is composed of clay, shale, and sandstone peculiar to the formation of the carboniferous series. But the fertility of the incumbent soil varies greatly, and altogether depends on the nature and quantity of the diluvial materials with which it is covered. Where the limestone has been heaved up to the surface, its strata must be referred to an earlier era. Yet there is no perceptible difference in the productive powers of the soil that covers it, and what has been more recently accumulated on the strata after the coal formation. Trap-rock abounds along the sea coast ; clay also, for the ordinary purposes of the potter, is met with in different situations.

The third district or geological section comprises the parishes of Haddington, Athelstaneford, Prestonkirk, Whitekirk, North Berwick, and Dirleton, and presents a character entirely different from the rest of the county. These parishes at one period, without doubt, formed part of the same plain, and were overlaid with such deposits as are common to the secondary formation. But in numerous situations, the strata have been burst asunder ; and the

melted materials of a lower region have been forced to the surface, and now form Traprain Law, Garleton-hills, North Berwick Law, and all the other rocks of igneous origin so conspicuous in the district, as well as the various isles and rocks that stud its shores. These rocks and hills differ both in structure, and, in some degree, in the materials of which they are composed, and are, consequently, distinguished by various names, such as porphyry, clinkstone, greenstone, basalt, &c. The designation trap-rock is sufficiently descriptive of the whole family; hence we here use it as a generic term. Trap is generally found in the vicinity of limestone, which has led to the conjecture of the latter being connected with the formation of the former. It has already been stated as existing on the sea shore in the eastern district of the county. The harbour of Dunbar is in part formed of a rare and really interesting description of trap, which, from the colour and materials of which it is composed, leads to the belief of its having been formed by the fusion of the red sandstone and limestone, that both abound in the neighbourhood. Indeed, it is highly probable that the various descriptions of trap are all merely the result of different degrees of heat, acting on different materials met with in the interior, and, like other rocks of igneous origin, have forced their way through the various strata to the surface of the globe. The upbreking, however, of the regular strata of the section of the county at present under consideration, by the trap, appears to have produced a greater diversity of soil of the present surface than could possibly have existed otherwise;—as, being lifted up and broken to fragments in deep water, running with a heavy current, the more clayey portion of the mass has, in some degree, floated till carried to the sheltered side of the first rock in its course, where it has been deposited, and now forms richer soil than that composed of the rougher and harder materials hurled to comparatively lower and more exposed situations. Hence the ridges or tails of deep rich loam, forming the eastern slopes of Traprain Law, North Berwick Law, Garleton-hills at Barney mains, Dirleton, Fentontower, Whitekirk-hills, and various other localities. The interesting fact, that the waters that then covered the country ran with a strong current from nearly due west, is also strikingly illustrated by these deposits,—the ridges or slopes stretching east and west, and invariably resting on the east side of the trap-hills and rocks: and further, rocks are common with a bold clear face

fronting the west, but never with a clear face in the opposite direction. Boulders of trap have also been found in great abundance, strewn in a direct line to the east, from the parent rock, but none are ever seen lying to the westward of the same rocks. As to the effects of the trap irruption on the general fertility of the district, it is highly worthy of notice, that the lands every where are undoubtedly better fitted for all the purposes of modern agriculture, by the commingling together of all the various original strata, than they possibly could have been if lying in their first position.

The mineral products of the county are of the utmost importance to the general welfare of its inhabitants, and are therefore deserving of particular notice.

1st, Coal is found in great abundance in the western parts of the county. It is a continuation of the Mid-Lothian coal-field, and extends eastward through the parishes of Prestonpans, Tranent, Ormiston, Pencaitland, Gladsmair, and into Haddington, but in the last it is so interrupted by faults, dikes, &c. as to be unworthy of working. It is consequently found principally in that part of the district that escaped the trap irruption. The article is said to have been known so early as in A. D. 1200, when it was worked at Prestongrange by the monks of Newbattle. It crops out in Seton sands, which may have led to its discovery and use at that early period. Trials have repeatedly been made to the eastward of Haddington, indeed to the eastward of Dunbar, to discover coal, but hitherto without success. Nor, from the character of the strata is it at all probable, that it ever can be found in that direction worth working. In the parish of Dirleton, to the north of that village, a thin seam crops out near the sea, but in place of running into the higher ground, it dips rapidly away towards the sea, shewing as if the outer edge only of the basin in which the coal had been formed had been lifted up by the trap-rock found in its neighbourhood, but on the opposite direction of the dip of the coal. About two miles further west, also near the sea, the *new red sandstone* has been lifted up, and is probably the only rock of that series found within the limits of the trap district; but its appearance adds to the probability of coal lying in that direction, and which may extend across below the sea, and unite with the coal-field worked with such advantage on the opposite coast of Fife.

2d, Limestone is every where met with, at a few miles distance, throughout the county, in great abundance, and of the finest quality. In some cases, the rock dips with a considerable angle, the in-

clination being sometimes in one direction and sometimes in another, having reference to the point at which the moving power by which the surrounding strata had been elevated, had exerted its greatest energy. Indeed, in some instances, where it has been raised to the surface, the dip is so rapid that it is found unworthy of working. But in general, the strata are tolerably level and the rock so near the surface, that it is readily procured at a moderate price every where. The limestone of the county is understood to be all of the carboniferous series, and often exhibits beautiful specimens of the encrinure, and of other organic remains of that era. From 12 to 14 feet is the common thickness of the rock in all the principal quarries, which strengthens the probability of its having all formed part of the same original deposit. The Hairlaw rock, in the parish of Glads-muir, at a short distance from the western boundary of the trap, presents a vivid picture of the movement by which the limestone and all its superincumbent strata had been lifted to its present position. The limestone dips from the trap away below the coal worked at no great distance to the westward. But its rising there and elsewhere to the eastward, without any coal being seen in the neighbourhood where it makes its second appearance, cuts off all hopes of the mineral ever being found in that direction.

3d, Clay-ironstone, fit for smelting, is met with in various situations. A number of years ago, it was worked at Gullane, on account of the Carron Company at Falkirk; but nothing has been done in the business, either there or elsewhere in the district, for a considerable time past. When speaking of the prospects of coal in the parish of Dirleton, allusion was made to the *new red sandstone*, which there makes its appearance. The rock has obviously been lifted up by the trap, which forms the conspicuous land-mark of Gullane-hill. The sandstone cropping out to the surface is composed of various strata, both red and white, and leaning on the trap-rock dips to the north-west, away towards the sea. A thin seam of coal, and also two seams or beds of fire-clay, are found in the sandstone strata. The undermost bed of clay is about 6 feet thick, and contains ironstone in blocks, imbedded in the clay. It was that seam that was formerly wrought by the Carron Company; it was worked out by mining, something in the manner of working coal. The uppermost bed of the fire-clay is about 2 feet thick, the sandstone adjoining it being red, and which is quarried for the ordinary purposes of building. The seams of clay contain blocks of red chalk, (provincially keil) an article much used by shepherds in marking

their flocks. The clay is highly indurated, most probably by the pressure of the incumbent mass of sandstone; so much is that the case, that it may with propriety be denominated slate rather than clay, especially when first dug out of the rock, although exposure to the atmosphere soon makes it exhibit its argillaceous origin. The materials forming clay and sandstone are so different in their characters, that it is interesting to see the one imbedded in the other, without the slightest intermixture of their respective component parts; at the same time it is evident that the currents of the ancient ocean in which these materials had been deposited were subject to the same sudden change as marks the deposits of more modern eras. Flints, in chalk, are supposed to have originated from some organized body having been deposited among the chalk, and which had attracted the silica in quantities sufficient to form the fluids. Could something of the same nature among the clay, at the remote period of its formation, have served as the nucleus for attracting the oxide of iron so as to form the red chalk in one bed, and the ironstone ore in the other?

4th, Clay of good quality, and fit for manufacturing brick and tiles, is met with in numerous situations. In the clays found in the higher part of the county, the colour is not uniform, and the beds of it are comparatively limited. The mineral in such localities was most probably deposited after the partial dislocation and upraising of the strata of the secondary formation. But in the lower district, circumstances connected with the clay formation appear to have been materially different. There, it is all invariably of a blue colour, and extends partially along, or at least not far from the sea, from the vicinity of Dunbar to the western boundary of the county. It is probable that the clay originally extended, at a remote period, in an unbroken line between the points here mentioned. The vale of the western branch of the Peffer-burn, however, is the field where the mineral is found in the greatest abundance, and which extends into the sea beneath the flat and wide sands of Aberlady. It varies in depth from ten to 25 feet thick, probably deeper, although hitherto unascertained. Shells apparently of marine origin are found in the clay, but generally so much decomposed as to be incapable of handling. There are likewise very thin beds or lamina of fine sand found interspersed occasionally among the clay, but so very thin as to be merely perceptible, although they serve to render the clay easier worked by the labourers when employed in raising it. And these

beds of sand are so uniformly deposited in something like horizontal strata as to shew distinctly that they must have been formed in very still water. The surface of the clay, on the other hand, is generally covered with sand a few feet deep, and which constitutes a moorish soil peculiar to the district. But under that sandy soil, when cleared away, the surface of the clay is seen thickly indented with irregularly shaped holes of from one to three feet deep, notwithstanding of its firm tenacious character, and which shews in the clearest manner, that, before the moorish sand was deposited, its surface had been washed and broken by water far more violently agitated than what had happened during the long period of the slow deposition of the argillaceous sediment, and as the level character of the stratum of the clay, as marked by the lamina of fine sand, shows that in all probability it had been deposited in very deep water, so its broken surface may be supposed to have resulted from its being raised into, and washed by comparatively shallow water, before being left entirely dry. The deposition of the seams of fire-clay in the sandstone strata may apparently be referred to the formation of the earlier period of the carboniferous series, while the blue clay of the lower district would appear to belong to a more recent period, although at the same time anterior to the trap irruption.

5th. Sandstone for building can be readily obtained, and some of the trap quarries likewise produce excellent materials for the same purpose, but nothing can excel the latter rock for road making, and throughout a great portion of the county, it is easily obtained in the utmost abundance. In some situations, too, such as at North Berwick-law, the trap, although not stratified, is of that firm texture as to be cut into blocks, and used for gate posts, and likewise heavy rollers suitable for the purposes of the agriculturist.

Such, in a brief sketch, are some of the leading facts in the geology of Haddingtonshire. On a transient glance of the subject, the mind is apt to perceive nothing but merely a succession of tremendous convulsions of nature, which have been alike ruinous as irresistible. But a more deliberate consideration of all the astonishing phenomena, connected with the deeply interesting subject, that have followed each other during the lapse of an almost inconceivable number of ages, leads to the cheering conviction, that *design* by a Supreme Ruler is most distinctly manifested

in making beneficent provision for the extensive existence and enjoyment of his animated creation.

Agriculture.—The Lammermuir-hills, that constitute the southern and higher district of the county, are principally devoted to the breeding of sheep, part being black-faced, but the great proportion are of the Cheviot breed, which are generally preferred on account of the superior value of the wool. The native stock are well-known as excellent thrivers, and generally sell at comparatively high prices, to be fed on grass or turnip in lower districts of the kingdom. Much care has been bestowed by the store-masters on the improvement of their stock, in respect to both wool and carcass, and the recent high prices of the former certainly hold out the most flattering encouragement for every exertion in that direction. Salving the sheep is invariably practised throughout the district, and it is probable that careful experiment may yet lead to the use of more valuable materials than any that have as yet been employed.

East Lothian is an agricultural district entirely in the strictest sense of the word, and has been long celebrated for the skill and success with which its husbandry has been conducted. The attention of its tenantry have long been steadily directed to the improvement of what is termed the alternate system of husbandry, as the practice best suited to both their soil and climate. At the same time, the fattening of stock of all descriptions for the butcher forms an important item in that system, and now constitutes a regular part of the economy of every well conducted farm. Comparatively few sheep or cattle, however, have hitherto been bred in the district, nor is there a single variety of any one description of our domestic animals, that owes its origin as a distinct breed to the county.

Of cattle bred for feeding either on grass or turnip, some are of the short-horned breed, but the greater proportion are from the Highlands and the north-eastern counties of Scotland. The sheep fed on grass are generally ewes, which are bought in the autumn, with a view to have lambs in the spring, when both are fattened and sold off during the summer. A considerable number of black-faced Highland wethers used to be fed on turnips annually, but of late that kind of stock has, in some measure, been set aside, and half-breed hogs fed in their stead. These are generally from Cheviot ewes by Leicester rams, and are commonly sold early in summer after being clipt, the recent high prices of

wool having greatly encouraged that system of management. It will be observed, however, that, although the feeding of stock is now carried on during the winter months as well as in summer, yet that every description of soil is not equally well-fitted for that profitable practice, and it is chiefly on that account that land suited for the growth of turnip, and which at the same time is equally well calculated for the production of wheat, is so truly valuable to the farmer.

It is from possessing that character in so eminent a degree, that the lands in the eastern or red sandstone district are so particularly distinguished for their fertility and value. There, with some exceptions, in its north-west point, to which the sandstone does not extend, every acre yields annually an abundant crop, either as food for fattening stock, or of grain of the finest quality. When, contrary to what results from cropping with grain alone, the more abundant and weighty the cattle crops are, so much the more is the land enabled to yield valuable crops of corn. Turnip is consequently the basis of the system of cropping on all such soils, and which are part eaten on the ground, and the other portion carted to the straw-yard for cattle. Wheat sown at any time after the ground is cleared, or barley in the spring, always follow the turnip, when clover and ryegrass seeds are sown for the next season. Grass, either cut or pastured, is the third year's crop, and which is followed by oats, that commonly finish the rotation. In cases where the soil is of a heavier character, the oats are followed by pease and beans, when wheat, sown in the autumn, finishes the course. There are 19,882 acres of that soil in the district, and the gross annual produce over the whole is estimated at from L. 6, 10s. to L. 8 Sterling per acre, Scotch measure.

In the western district, over the lands that exhibit something like their original strata, summer fallow is the basis of the system of cropping. Along its southern border, there are occasionally seen pretty extensive fields covered with diluvium from the adjacent transition rocks, and are consequently fitted for the successful culture of turnips. In such cases, barley with grass seeds follows, which often is pastured two or three years, when it is again broken up for oats. That system is still more applicable to the tract covered by the red sandstone diluvium, which is found peculiarly valuable for the growth of turnips and grass, and consequently the feeding of stock. But, from the nature of the original strata, the greater part of the district has a subsoil of such a retentive tenaci-

ous character, that a bare summer fallowing is found by far the best foundation for its profitable cultivation. Wheat regularly follows the fallow, and is sown in the spring with grass seeds, which, the year after, is cut or pastured, and the fourth year the land is sown with grass seeds, which concludes the rotation. Sometimes, the grass lies two years before the oats are taken, and, in other cases, beans and pease mixed succeed the oats, which, being followed by wheat, forms the sixth and last year of the course. But it is only on the better description of land that the sixth course system can be adopted with any thing like advantage to the cultivator. The climate, too, being rather late, is against that practice, and which, on the whole, is rarely pursued. At the same time, all that portion of the western district that slopes to the north, and lies within a mile or two of the sea, is generally of very fine quality, and yields the richest crops of every description. The entire south-western district contains 25,231 acres, and its gross annual produce is estimated at L. 3, 10s. to L. 6 per Scotch acre. The sea-side part of the district contains 5740 acres, and its gross annual produce is valued at L. 6, 10s. per acre.

In the third or trap district, the circumstance that more particularly distinguishes the system of cropping there from that in other parts of the county, is the very general cultivation of pease and beans, or black crop, as these are commonly designated. The greater part of that district has a retentive subsoil, and the soil itself is, in many cases, of a heavy loamy character,—consequently very well fitted for the leguminous crops mentioned, although not so well calculated for growing turnip. The climate is likewise favourable, which, united with a kindly enough working soil, enables the farmer, with considerable certainty, to have the bean stubble regularly sown with wheat before the winter,—a circumstance on which much of the prosperity of the district depends. Summer fallow has long been the foundation of the system of cropping adopted,—the land being commonly sown with wheat in the autumn, and with grass seeds in the spring for the year following. The third year, the greater part of the grass is pastured with sheep, only what is necessary for the work horses being cut with the scythe. Oats the fourth year follow after the clover lea. Beans drilled the next, when wheat, the sixth year, finishes the rotation. On dry sandy or gravelly loam, found to a limited extent near the sea shore, turnip have long commenced the rotation, and latterly, by skilful draining, the cultivation of that useful plant, has been gradually

and profitably extended. In such cases, the after-rotation is similar, for the most part, to that where the land is summer fallowed, and it will be seen by what is stated, that the ground generally of the district is cropped with wheat twice every six years, and hitherto, it may be added, without any apparent diminution of its fertility. The arable lands of this district extend to 27,786 Scotch acres, and the gross annual value is estimated at L. 6, 6s. per acre.

Great attention has been paid in selecting the most valuable varieties of grain of all kinds for seed, experience having proved, where attention has been paid to the subject, that varieties of the same kind of grain will often differ in their produce, to the extent of the full rent of the land.

Of wheat, the staple produce of the county, both the white and red varieties are cultivated, but the former by far the most extensively. Of these, Hunter's sort has long stood the test of public approbation, and which, after many trials with a number of different kinds for the last thirty years, is still found the best suited for all the various soils and situations of the county. The woolly-eared is also a valuable sort of the white kind for some situations. The Taunton-dean variety promises well, but has not as yet been sufficiently tested. The blood-red is a valuable kind for very rich soft land; the Lammas red answers well on moderately good soils, while the Peaston red, a variety recently introduced, is found to be productive of grain of a very superior quality. The woolly-eared has a square set ear, and has short fine straw. Hunter's Taunton-dean and the Lammas red are open in the ear, with pretty long straw. The blood-red has a square set ear, with short thick straw. The Peaston red likewise has a square set ear, but with long straw. The character of the straw ought always to determine the situation on which to sow the different varieties.

Of barley, the Chevalier variety has lately been introduced, and, after repeated experiments made in competition for premiums offered by the county Agricultural Association, for ascertaining its true character, as compared with the other sorts long cultivated, it is found to be the most productive of any kind known, and has consequently nearly superseded all other varieties. It is, however, a few days later in ripening at harvest. Of oats, the potato and Hopeton are the two best early varieties, the former for soft rich land, and the latter for soils of a harder description. While the grey Angus oat, as a late variety, is better suited to all the different soils and

situations of the county, taken as whole, than any other kind of oat whatever.

It is almost unnecessary to add, that potatoes are every where cultivated, although generally only for domestic use. In the farm rotation they are sometimes substituted for a part of the turnip crop, but more frequently they are grown on a part of the land allotted for pease and beans, and are always found an excellent preparative for wheat or barley.

Almost the whole arable lands of the county have been limed within the last thirty years. Lime obviously acts as a chemical agent, and its effects have consequently been much more conspicuous on some soils than on others. On deep dry rich land, it does not operate so powerfully as on thin soils of every description, more especially if they contain any thing of a ferruginous character, where, by neutralizing the oxide of iron, or other ingredients alike pernicious to vegetation, the effects of time have been found equally beneficial as permanent. The abundant supply of that valuable mineral has therefore been of the utmost consequence to the successful cultivation of a very considerable portion of the land of the county.

Draining is another branch of rural industry that has long been particularly attended to. Till of late, the great object of the practice was to free the land of spring-water, that used to rise to the surface, and souring the soil, checked and enfeebled vegetation of every description. Drains from three to four feet deep, and filled with stones, was the mode employed, and in many cases is still the practice. But within these few years, the plan of tile-draining has been introduced, with the view to relieve the land from rain or surface water, as well as from springs, and generally so far as it has as yet been carried, with very great success. All cross or water furrows bid fair to be got entirely rid of, which have hitherto entailed a constant expense in clearing out, on the occupiers of all clay land farms. These drains are always made in the furrows between the ridges commonly in every alternate furrow, and as the ridges are often about eighteen feet wide, it gives a drain in every thirty-six feet. The drains are, for the most part, nearly two feet deep, and where the subsoil is of soft material, flats are used along with the curved covering tiles. The expense runs from L. 4 to L. 5 per acre when the drains are in alternate furrows; it is, therefore, a serious matter to drain an extensive farm. Yet such are the immense advantages on all lands with a retentive subsoil, that

some farmers have begun draining in every furrow, when the above-mentioned expenses are of course doubled. The landlords, at the same time, in many cases, are liberally bearing a share of the burden. New tile-works are being erected on all the clay-fields, formerly noticed to supply the yearly increasing demand for these tiles.

Statute labour or road money is the only public burden that is everywhere levied on all the occupiers of the soil, whether landlord or tenant, and is applied to the maintenance of both parish and turnpike roads,—the former in many cases being now made turnpike. The amount paid by each individual is regulated by the ploughgates of land he occupies. The term, as originally used, was rather indefinite, but meant the extent of land that a plough was understood to be able to cultivate properly throughout the year. In 1823, however, a new Act of Parliament was obtained for regulating the management of the roads, when, by a general arrangement with the Justices of the Peace, it was understood that sixty Scotch acres, nearly on an average, should be taken as the ploughgate; and, according to that scale, the road money has since been levied in the different parishes, commonly at the rate of L. 2 the ploughgate. The number of ploughgates was then found to be 1344, which gives L. 2688 Sterling, as the sum annually expended in maintaining the roads, besides what is derived from the toll-bars, now so common in almost every direction. The entire arable land of the county was also found to be 82,184 acres Scotch measure, or very nearly so, exclusive of plantations extending to nearly 7500 acres. There are besides about 2000 acres not arable, of sandy soil or links along the sea shore, generally occupied as rabbit warrens, and of which nearly one-half of that extent at Gullane is the only common worth noticing in the district. The Lammermuir-hills in this county are computed to contain 20,000 acres.

There are 386 separate farms of from 60 acres and upwards, the average size being something near to 250 acres. Each farm has a thrashing machine, of which about 80 are driven by steam, 7 by wind, 30 by water, and the rest by horses. About 40 of these farms are in the natural possession of the proprietors, being mostly in pasture; the others are all let to tenants on leases of from nineteen to twenty-one years. Rents are commonly paid by grain, generally wheat, the price being regulated by the annual fiars of the county. Seven bushels of wheat per Scotch acre may be

considered as something like the average rent of the wheat lands of the district. The valued rent of the county is L. 168,878, 5s. 10d. Scotch, and the real rent, valuing the wheat at L. 1, 6s. per boll, will be found very near the same sum in Sterling money. The gross annual produce per acre over the arable land is nearly L. 6 Sterling, or for the whole county L. 493,104, which the annual cost of stock, viz. sheep and wool from the Lammermuir-hills, will raise to about half a million Sterling.

REMARKS ON THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE OF THE COUNTY.

Roads.—In 1750 the first turnpike bill for Scotland was an act of Parliament obtained by the land proprietors of this county, for repairing the great post road from Dunglass to Ravenshaugh. But long after that period, a single mile of continuous hard road was scarcely anywhere else to be seen in the district. Travelling in carriages was consequently tedious even in summer, and in winter it was almost out of the question. Riding on horseback was therefore common, and when ladies left home they were generally mounted behind a servant on a pad, an article of furniture then to be found in the possession of every family who had a horse to ride on. Grain was then also carried to market on horseback, even to the distance of Edinburgh. Coals were brought home in summer by carts of a very frail construction, with hardly a bit of iron about them, the axletree being of wood, and the wheels slightly shod with iron in place of being ringed as at present. On farms of the larger size, there were carriages of higher pretensions, and dignified with the name of *wain*. When the roads became passable in spring or summer, the clumsy machine used to be put in motion, and drawn by four oxen and two horses, and conducted by the hind and his goadman, it would transport loads of from 42 to 48 bushels of oats or barley, to the great self-satisfaction and importance of the individual intrusted with so weighty a charge. After the accession of his late Majesty George III. greater attention began to be paid to the internal improvement of the county, and numerous acts of Parliament for improving and managing the public roads have since been obtained, and vast sums expended in constructing and repairing them in every corner of the county, and now a man with a single horse and cart, can easily transport the above-mentioned quantities of grain to wherever it may be found necessary. The turnpike and parish roads of the county extend to 350 miles or thereby.

Mode of Occupancy, Cropping, &c.—Long after the middle of last century, almost the whole county was open field, with much of the lands rundale, and divided field *about* amongst its numerous tenantry. These frequently resided together in a cluster of mean houses, dignified by the name of town, and were any thing but conveniently situated for the profitable management of their respective possessions. Summer-fallowing was then rarely thought of, and turnips and sown-grasses were hardly even known. It was then a common employment for the farm-servants, in the summer afternoons, to gather thistles from among the corn, or wherever else they could be found, to feed their work-horses during the night, these being the only green food the animals ever tasted while in the stable. And after harvest, when the crop was secured in the stack, and the barn-yard *slap* built up, the horses after their day's work were turned out during the night to the fields, to seek such provision as nature provided. That season was called *long halter time*, and the poor animals, unless detained by some spot more than ordinarily overrun with couch and other root weeds, were often to seek far enough from home in the mornings. Now the whole county is inclosed, and every farm has within itself its own farm-house and offices. Summer-fallow annually occupies at least on the heavy soils, about one-sixth of the arable land, and sown grass and turnips are everywhere far more than sufficient for the working stock necessary on every farm; and all these important and beneficial changes have been introduced within almost the lifetime of a single generation.

Tenantry and Labourers.—Indolence and want of enterprise marked the character of the tenantry of the county up even to the middle of the last century. Alike destitute of the knowledge of agricultural improvement and the means of carrying it into effect, they jogged on in the beaten track, perfectly satisfied with the system they pursued, and with the comforts it afforded them. As proof of this it may be mentioned, that so late as in 1772, a farm in the northern angle of the county had been deserted by its new tenant, after he had merely ploughed his patch of fallow in the spring, when it lay without a tenant from the Whitsunday till after the harvest, although it was frankly offered on lease at L.1, 6s. per Scotch acre. The land, too, was naturally of very superior quality, and without any particular expenditure since in improvement, has been long let at nearly three bolls of wheat per acre. Farm-servants were then but poorly paid and scantily fed, and

with the feeble cattle and ineffectual implements of husbandry, were ill fitted, in any portion of time, to perform a reasonable amount of labour. Lord Kaimes, when writing about the implements of husbandry then used, says of the harrows, "they were better fitted to *raise laughter* than to *raise mould*," and every thing else was of a piece." And so feeble were the cattle, that when making the barley-seed, a serious matter in those days, it was necessary the labour should be performed early in the morning, and late in the evenings, when the sun's rays were comparatively weak, otherwise the starved animals were unable to crawl. A married ploughman was paid in the produce of the farm, the same as at present, but he received 24 bushels less of oats than is given now : besides, the grain was fully 10 per cent. inferior to the produce of the present time, and the cow, from the want of sown-grass, was often scarcely worth the milking, and, still more, potatoes were then hardly known. The consequences were, that the poor hind was miserably fed, poorly clad, feeble, and particularly liable to sickness. At that period, regularly in the spring, in every hamlet and village, the ague made its appearance in almost every family, and there can hardly be a doubt of that sickness having often been the natural effects of poverty and filth, more than any thing else. It is a singular fact, that, since the time that potatoes were at the command of the children in the labourer's family, the ague has not so much as even been known among them.

With respect to smuggling and poaching offences, when indulged, always pernicious to the happiness of a rural population, the conduct of the people of the period under consideration, stands directly opposite to that of the present inhabitants. At that time poaching was utterly unknown, and simply because nobody then thought of preserving game, and every man shot or hunted as he thought proper. Pheasant preserves had not then been introduced to tenant the jails, and swell the criminal calendar of the kingdom. On the other hand, smuggling was exceedingly common, and as yet, wherever it is followed, was greatly pernicious to the best interests of the community. At that time, the entire sea-coast from Berwickshire to near Prestonpans, was occupied by one connected line of smugglers, and all intimately acquainted with each other. The articles dealt in were chiefly French wines and brandy, and even the respectable families of the district were regularly supplied with what of these commodities they required, by the contraband

trader alone. * Whiskey was then scarcely known, the farmers and working classes generally using malt liquors, and who, for the trifling duty then levied on the article, were ever ready and eager to undergo the trouble, and incur the risk of cheating the *gauger*. But the exciseman and the union with England were considered part and parcel of the same concern, and were consequently alike hateful for a long time to the people of all classes; and although that feeling had gradually softened, it was not altogether subdued till about the time of the American war, which interrupted the communication with France, and at the same time, furnished a new topic of interest, of the most deeply exciting description, to almost every family in the country. At the present day, and for a considerable time past, smuggling is little more than known merely by name, and there is probably no corner in the kingdom where the people in general are more disposed to respect the magistrate, and obey the laws, than the rural population of this county.

Ecclesiastical State.—Christianity is understood to have been introduced into the county, at least so early as the sixth century, and ample provision made for its support, according to the notions of the times, at a very early period. History notices particularly the endowment of different extensive religious establishments; and the names of places, and the massive ruins still to be met with, testify to the piety of its ancient population. Since the Reformation, the county has been divided into twenty-four parishes. Had-dington alone is a collegiate charge.

Parish ministers, besides their spiritual duties, have also, with the assistance of their sessions, the important interests of the poor of their respective parishes to look after; and from the chairman of the session, viz. the minister, being alike independent of those who contribute, and those who receive parochial aid, and the services of the session as a body, being entirely gratuitous, they are peculiarly well fitted for the discharge of the duty intrusted to them. It is to be understood at the same time, that, wherever legal assessments are raised for the poor, it is more peculiarly the duty of the session to say who are fitting objects to be put on the roll, when the heritors of the respective parishes attend to the raising of the money.

Poor.—The table to be appended hereto will show the extent of

* The above facts, stated as having occurred since the middle of the last century, were communicated to the writer by individuals who had, in their earlier years, been personally engaged in what they narrated.

pauperism in the county, which is too often to be traced to ignorance and profligacy united. Every circumstance, therefore, that has a tendency to degrade the taste and habits of the working classes, necessarily paves the road to immorality, and ought, therefore, to be sedulously guarded against, as far as practicable, by every wellwisher of his country. The state of the cottages of the district is, under that impression, well deserving of consideration. These cottages generally consist of only one apartment, where all the members of the family live and sleep without regard to either age or sex. In cases where the family are grown up to men and women, such a condition must be any thing but favourable to that delicacy of feeling, especially among the females, so essential to sound morality; and when sickness happens, the want of fresh air, from the small window being frequently incapable of opening, renders the narrow crowded apartment alike pernicious to both the moral and physical welfare of the inmates. A man or woman accustomed to such misery can have no great apprehensions about pauperism, and, consequently, such people have generally little hesitation in throwing themselves on their respective parishes. Were it for no other cause, the owners of landed property would find it no loss in the end, to be at the expense of providing better accommodation for their labourers, than in too many instances that class of the community are found in possession of. It is painful to see the industrious labourer confined to the same miserable hut that sheltered its ragged inmates of former generations. It is to be hoped, however, that the cottages of the hinds and labourers of East Lothian will not much longer remain the solitary exception to that enlightened improvement that has so fortunately marked the progress of events in every corner of the country, during the last half century. Friendly societies are frequently to be found among the labourers; and such institutions, that teach them to trust to their own resources, are highly deserving of every encouragement.

A complete change, as may be seen from the tenor of the parochial Reports, has taken place gradually in the public sentiment, with regard to being put on the parish poor roll.

ABSTRACT of Table by Alfred John List, Superintendent of Police, Haddingtonshire, shewing the number of Males and Females convicted, and by whom tried, for offences committed in the County and Burghs of East Lothian, from 1st January to 31st December, 1836 :—

Nature of Offences.	By High Court of Justiciary.		Summarily by the Sheriff.		Summarily by Justices of the Peace.		Monthly Justice of Peace Court.		By Provost & Magistrates of Haddington & Dunbar.		Total.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Assaults,	8	...	5	...	...	...	9	2	5	2	22	4
— and Riot,	1	...	...	...	...	...	9	...	10	...
Allowing pigs to stray on streets,	1	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
Breach of the peace,	8	2	7	...	15	2
Do. of ale license,	2	...	2	...	4	...
Deforcing sheriff-officers,	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Destroying tombstones,	2	...	...	...	2	...
Drunkenness and Riot,	1	2	1	2
Do. on the Sabbath,	1	...	1	...
Furious driving,	25	...	2	...	27	...
Fraud and imposition,	1	...	1	...
Grazing cattle on road sides,	7	1	...	...	7	1
Gypsies encamping on roads,	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	1
Indecent conduct to children,	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Light and unstamped weights,	1	...	...	...	1	...
Leaving carts unattended,	8	...	...	...	8	...
Not confining a dog to the cart,	1	...	...	...	1	...
Poaching at night,	8	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...
Do. at day,	3	...	...	...	3	...
Riot,	6	...	1	...	7	...
Rescuing prisoners from officers,	1	...	1	...
Shooting with intent,	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Theft,	2	...	7	8	...	...	4	2	9	3	22	13
Vagrants,	4	1	4	1
Window breaking,	1	...	...	...	1	...
Wilful demolition of property,	3	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	3
Total,	14	...	24	8	2	1	79	10	43	8	162	27

Total convictions, 1836, 189. Do. 1835, 193.

The number of individuals annually convicted of offences by the civil authorities, as shewn by the above table, is greatly beyond what the people generally have any idea of, the offenders being nearly as one in every hundred of the whole inhabitants. Fortunately, however, a considerable proportion of these offences have been of a minor character, such as furious driving, leaving carts, and grazing cattle on road sides. A few years since, the people of the country were much annoyed by numerous bands of gypsies and Irish, with too many of the characteristics and propensities of gypsies, who were to be found encamped during great part of the year in almost every retired road and lane in the county, and, being tolerated for a time, their numbers increased with a rapidity almost inconceivable. Such hordes were literally nurseries of thieves. Very soon, however, after the evil became obvious, a most efficient remedy was provided by the appointment of the present superintendant of police.

TABLE I. Showing the number of Arable Acres, Population, and Ecclesiastical State of the Parishes in the County of Haddington.

Parishes.	Arable acres.	Pop. in 1851.	Connected with Established Ch.		Ministers' income.		Dissenters.		
			Famil.	Indivs.	Glebes.	Stipend.	Com. Elem.	Chapels.	Famil. Indivs.
					Acres.	Val.	L. s. d.		
Haddington,	10900	5833	830	...	...	...	19 chalders.	6	215
Do. 2d minister,	...	...	...	...	...	...	17 do and L. 33, 6s. 8d.	...	...
Prestonkirk,	6270	1765	360	...	...	L. 40	18 do.	1	47
Whitekirk,	6000	1050	221	...	6	30	18 do.	...	16
Athelstaneford,	4000	950	...	...	5	15	15 do.	...	...
Stenton,	2900	686	...	600	7½	24	17 do.	...	...
Whithingham,	3958	715	133	...	6½	...	16 do.	...	3
Dunbar,	7197	4735	815	...	4	...	20 do.	3	294
Garvald & Bara,	2920	914	...	...	13½	...	9 do. & 4½ bush. L. 30, 6s.	...	...
Humbie,	7000	875	173	...	...	...	L. 250 to L. 300.	...	17
Salton,	3166	790	...	760	5	15	16 chalders.	...	...
Ormiston,	3245	838	168	...	7½	...	10 do. and L. 41, 13s. 4d.	...	19
Yester,	4580	1050	...	1000	10	25	L. 200 average.	...	...
Gladsmuir,	5080	1658	...	450	5	8	18 chalders 2 bolls.	...	...
Dirleton,	7500	1431	...	1344	11	38	17 chalders.	...	...
Spott,	3780	612	115	...	6	18	16 do.	...	...
Innerwick,	4000	987	...	860	5	15	16 do.	...	...
Aberlady,	4000	973	219	...	8	...	16 do.	...	12
Moreham,	1458	262	47	...	4 arab.	...	L. 150 by Government } bounty.	...	3
Bolton,	2451	323	61	...	2 grass.	25	L. 150.	...	4
Tranent,	4248	3650	...	2980	6	28	18 chalders.	1	...
Prestonpans,	739	2500	...	2350	7	...	16 do.	...	...
North Berwick,	3400	1824	...	1592	6	...	18 do.	1	...
Pencaitland,	3560	1180	...	1140	6	...	16½ do.	...	...
Oldhamstocks,	1459	720	...	...	...	...	L. 297, 15s. 6d.	...	...

Haddington.—The number of Dissenting families above stated includes 26 Episcopalian and 3 Roman Catholic.

TABLE II. Showing the State of the Poor, &c

Parishes.	No. of poor.	Weekly al- lowance.		Collections.			Interest.			Assessment.			Annual income.			Proportion to population.	Population.	Friendly Societies.
		s.	d.	L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.			
Haddington,	160	1	8½	50	to 60		100	0	0	800	0	0	900	0	0	1-37th	5833	seve- ral.
Prestonkirk,	32	1	7½	15	0	0	—			120	0	0	135	0	0	1-55th	1760	3
Whitekirk,	20	—	—	—	—		25	0	0	None.	—		—	—		1-52d	1050	—
Athelstaneford	—	—	—	—	—		—	—		—	—		130	0	0	—	951	—
Stenton,	16	1	10	21	0	0	25	0	0	55	0	0	100	0	0	1-43d	686	1
Whitingham,	17	1	7½	15	0	0	4	0	0	70	0	0	85	0	0	1-42d	715	—
Dunbar,	103	1	6	—	—		75	0	0	—	—		450	0	0	1-46th	4735	1
Garvald,	17	1	6	—	—		—	—		—	—		80	0	0	1-53d	914	2
Humbie,	18	1	9	—	—		18	0	0	75	0	0	90	0	0	1-48th	875	—
Salton,	15	1	9	18	0	0	10	0	0	60	0	0	90	0	0	1-53d	794	2
Ormiston,	15	1	9	10	0	0	3	0	0	70	0	0	85	0	0	1-57th	858	—
Yester,	18	1	6	60	0	0	50	0	0	None.	—		110	0	0	1-58th	1050	—
Gladsmuir,	41	1	10	16	0	0	16	0	0	165	0	0	200	0	0	1-40th	1658	3
Dirleton,	25	1	10	84	0	0	44	0	0	—	—		129	0	0	1-57th	1431	3
Spot,	14	1	4	6	0	0	5	0	0	50	0	0	60	0	0	1-44th	612	1
Innerwick,	18	—	—	—	—		50	0	0	—	—		—	—		1-55th	987	—
Aberlady,	23	1	8	25	0	0	4	0	0	65	0	0	100	0	0	1-43d	973	2
Prestonpans,	80	—	—	31	0	0	—	—		300	0	0	331	0	0	1-32d	2500	3
Tranent,	105	1	4	15	0	0	—	—		440	0	0	455	0	0	1-36th	3650	3
Pencaitland,	32	1	9	Partly.	Partly.		Partly.	Partly.		Partly.	Partly.		—	—		1-37th	1180	—
Bolton,	47	1	4	Partly.	Partly.		Partly.	Partly.		Partly.	Partly.		26	8	0	1-70th	323	—
N. Berwick,	32	1	6	15	0	0	9	3	4	104	10	0	128	0	0	1-57th	1824	3
Oldhamstocks,	15	1	2	19	7	0	—	—		78	0	0	98	0	0	1-50th	720	—
Morham,	4	—	—	Partly.	Partly.		Partly.	Partly.		Partly.	Partly.		—	—		—	262	—

It will be seen that the annual income of the different parishes exceeds the amount paid to their respective paupers, the salaries of session-clerk, precentor, &c. being always paid from the same funds. Infirm and aged people frequently leave the country and settle in the towns, which may account in part for the greater proportional number of paupers in some parishes than in others. Every parish is also occasionally subject to an extra expense arising from the maintenance of imbecile or fatuous persons, which likewise may account for the difference observable in the expenditure of several of the parishes.

ADDENDUM
TO THE ACCOUNT OF THE PARISH OF PRESTONPANS.

Schaw's Hospital.—Since the date of the former Statistical Account, in which all that, (in so far as I know), is important respecting the origin and objects of Schaw's Hospital, is admirably narrated, a new house, of considerable exterior elegance, and very superior internal accommodation, has been erected. The boys have, at no period since the commencement of the institution, been under better control, or enjoyed more real comfort than at the present time. The duties of the governor and house-keeper are performed with the most praiseworthy fidelity and prudence. The hospital, with its grounds, which are kept with care and taste, form a very attractive feature in the scenery of the parish. The Institution is under the superintendence of 19 trustees. 24 boys are admissible: and the trustees are authorized to bind them as apprentices, or do according to their wisdom, for their benefit, on their leaving the Institution.

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PARISH OF LAUDER.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. PETER COSENS, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—It cannot be doubted that the *town* of Lauder gave its name to the parish, and that the town derived its name from that of the river, near to which it is situated. This is, indeed, now, and has long been, called *Leader* water; but since it is termed Lauder by Camden in his *Britannia*, and the vale through which it flows has, from time immemorial, been termed *Lauderdale*, its more ancient, and, probably, its original name was Lauder. The etymology of *Leader*, or *Lauder*, is traced by certain antiquaries to *Laudur*, a Celtic word, denoting *the lesser river*, or *the river which breaks forth*. And, accordingly, the *Leader*, though it be a comparatively small stream, swelled, as it occasionally is, by torrents from the neighbouring hills, rises rapidly, bursts its banks, and floods its fertile haughs.

In point of area, the parish of Lauder seems to be the largest in Berwickshire. The distance between its northern and southern confines is not less than 13 miles. This, however, is somewhat more than its absolute length; for toward the south it is completely intersected to the extent of $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile, by an angular part of the lands of Blainslie, which belong to the parish of Melrose, and the county of Roxburgh. Its entire length, then, is $11\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Its greatest breadth is 8 or 9 miles, and its medium breadth about 5, so that its extent is nearly 58 square miles. On the north and north-west it is bounded by Gifford and Channelkirk; on the west and south-west by Stow and Melrose; on the south and south-east by Melrose, Earlston, and Legerwood; and on the east and north-east by Westruther, Longformacus, and Cranshaws.

Topographical Appearances.—The parish is of an irregular oblong figure. Two-thirds of it are moorish and hilly. Its northern limits, for several miles, are formed by the Lammermoor hills, one of which, called *Lammerlaw*, the highest in the parish, is about 1500 feet

above the level of the sea. Connected with those of Lammermoor, and extending in a south-east direction on each side of the Leader, are ranges of hills of a moderate height, to the summits of which cultivation has been pushed, and in which there are various openings to the east and the west. Between the ranges lies Leader vale, varying from one to two miles in width, and in which is to be found the best land in the parish.

Meteorology.—In the spring months, and sometimes in May, the prevailing winds are from the east, and are for the most part attended with drought and cold weather. During the rest of the year they blow more frequently from the south and south-west. In a dry summer it has often been observed, that the clouds, after collecting apparently above the higher districts of Tweed or Ettrick, are attracted by the Lammermoor hills on the north, or the Cheviot on the south, and diffuse their refreshing showers on either of these places, leaving the intermediate regions, especially in the lower parts of the parish, in a parched state. The climate, though variable, is, on the whole, salubrious. To its influence no epidemical disorders can be traced. Agues and consumptive complaints were at one time rather prevalent, but the former have long ago disappeared, and the latter are now very circumscribed in their ravages.

Hydrography.—The parish is generally well supplied with perennial springs of excellent water, some of which issue from whinstone rock, and others from sand or gravel. The principal river is the Leader, which has its source in the junction of two rivulets descending from the hills of Lammermoor, about four miles above the town of Lauder. To the extent of nine or ten miles it winds its course through the parish, and about nine miles below Lauder it mingles its waters with the Tweed at Drygrange. It runs with considerable rapidity, and in a south-east direction, affording good sport to the angler. The localities on the banks of this stream have been celebrated in the old Scottish song of “Leader haughs and Yarrow.”

Geology.—On the rising grounds to the south-west of the Leader there is an inexhaustible supply of rock (whinstone) of very excellent quality, which is used for building, as well as for making the turnpike roads, and is equally adapted for both these purposes. The soil is much diversified. In general that of the *arable* land is light and dry, peculiarly fitted for turnip husbandry; a good deal of it

is inclined to clay, and there is also a considerable quantity of rich loam upon a gravelly or sandy bottom.

Botany.—Till lately there were but few *plantations* in the parish. The oldest is Egrop or Edgarhope wood, comprehending about 100 acres. It is situated on the side of a hill, in the upper part of which grow chiefly the larch and the Scottish fir, while towards the bottom it abounds with oak, elm, and ash. In the park at Thirlstane Castle there are some remarkably fine hardwood trees of great dimensions. An elm, the largest in the park, measures in girth, at three feet from the ground, fifteen feet. These trees are probably 150 years old. On the estate of the Earl of Lauderdale various new plantations, covering several hundred acres, and designed with much taste, have been recently executed, and appear to be thriving admirably. At Chapel, too, in the southern part of the parish, there are ninety acres under wood, fir, ash, oak, and beech, to the growth of which, especially of the two last species, the soil in that quarter is most congenial.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—From the chartularies of monasteries, and the title-deeds of certain estates, it appears that, as a kirk town, Lauder is as ancient at least as the reign of David I.; that it, with its lands on Leader water, was granted by that monarch to Sir Hugh Moreville, constable of Scotland; that his territorial rights descended to a long succession of heirs, chiefly females, who introduced the Lords of Galloway and the Baliols; and that, when for their political delinquencies these were deprived of their estates, Lauder and its territory became the property of Sir James Douglas, and afterwards of the Earl of Angus. The lands of Thirlstane in the parish were granted by Sir Hugh Moreville to one of his friends, whose grand-daughter, the heiress of Thirlstane, married Sir Richard Mautaland or Maitland, the ancestor of the present noble family of Maitland, to which the greatest part of the parish now belongs. In former times, Lauderdale, which now forms one of the three large divisions of the county, was a separate Regality, or almost independent jurisdiction, under the name of a Bailiary.

The town of Lauder is the only royal burgh in the county. Its original charter having been destroyed, it obtained from James IV., in 1502, a new charter, which was confirmed by an act of Parliament dated the 28th June 1633. Lauder has also been the seat of the presbytery of the bounds since the year 1768,—the former seat, Earlstoun, being inconvenient for the accommodation of the

members. It must be well known to most readers of Scottish history, that about the end of July 1482, when James -III. and his army were encamped in the vicinity of Lauder, the nobles held in the old church their celebrated conferences, which terminated in the murder of six of the king's minions, whom they hanged over a bridge crossing the Leader, a little below Thirlstane castle.

Maps, &c.—A map of Lauderdale was sketched in the reign of Charles I. by Mr Timothy Pont, son of the famous Rev. Robert Pont, and is to be found in Blaeu's Atlas Scotiæ. Since that period, surveys of the county, including Lauderdale, have been made by various respectable individuals. In a large map of Berwickshire, surveyed in 1825 and 1826, and published by Thomas Sharp and Company, London, the boundaries of this parish, with its principal localities, seem to be distinctly and correctly delineated.

Eminent Men.—Among various distinguished persons connected with the parish by residence, may be reckoned Sir John Maitland, Lord Thirlstane, who was successively Lord Privy Seal, Secretary of State, and Chancellor of Scotland, in the reign of James VI. As chancellor, he accompanied the King in his matrimonial excursion to Denmark, where he became intimately acquainted with the celebrated Tycho Brahe. He was a very able and upright statesman, and, by the wise exercise of his high political and moral influence, he contributed, in no small degree, to promote the peace and prosperity of the National Church. In the end of the year 1595, when on his deathbed, he was visited by Andrew Melville, along with his nephew, Bruce, one of the ministers of Edinburgh, and the conversation which he then held with them, was most satisfactory to his visitors. “The loss of this excellent statesman was quickly felt by the nation, and must be viewed as a principal means of bringing on the evils with which the church was soon after assailed.” The King, too, extremely regretted his death, and honoured him with an epitaph of his own composition.

It is not perhaps very generally known, that Mr James Guthrie, the first of our presbyterian ministers who suffered unto death after the Restoration for his intrepid adherence to the cause of truth, was for some time minister of this place. He was settled at Lauder in 1638, appears to have been translated to Stirling in 1649, and was martyred at Edinburgh in 1661.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are the Earl of Lauderdale, the Marquis of Tweeddale, Lord Maitland, Adam Fairholme,

Esq. of Chapel, Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden, Alexander Allan, Esq. of Muircleugh, and the community of Lauder.

Parochial Registers.—Of the state of the parochial registers no satisfactory account can be given. The register narrating the progress of discipline and church censures commenced in 1677, and was regularly continued till the 27th August 1688: then it has a chasm till April 1707, when it is again filled up for nearly two years, after which it exhibits another blank till May 1733, since which period the proceedings of the session are regularly recorded. The register of births and baptisms is equally defective, for in some years the entries are numerous, in some they are very few, and in others they are entirely omitted. This, though it now contain a complete list of the children baptised to members of the Established church, is still imperfect, in consequence of the general neglect or refusal of dissenters to insert in it the names of their children. Hitherto there has been no register of burials, but it is resolved that this shall be the case no longer. The register of marriages has been well kept for a considerable number of years.

Antiquities.—Under this head is to be noticed a Roman road, the line of which has been distinctly traced through a considerable part of the parish, and is in various places still perceptible. It passes a little to the west of the town of Lauder, and proceeds towards the manse of Channelkirk.—Near this ancient road, on Lauder hill, are the remains of a military station, and about two miles north from this, on an elevated spot at Blackchester, are the vestiges of an oval camp, having one entrance on the east and another on the west, and fortified by two ditches and mounds of earth.—A camp of similar form and of larger dimensions is traced on Tollis or Tullius hill, in the northern extremity of the parish. Spanish, Scottish, and English coins have been dug up, some of which Dr Ford, the former minister, had in his possession, as well as several Roman coins inscribed with the names of Julius Cæsar, Lucius Flaminius, and others.—Many tumuli are to be seen on Lauder moor, near the old road to Melrose, where battles had probably been fought, as fragments of swords, bows, and arrows have there been found. The arrows were pointed with flint stone, tapering from the juncture, about an inch long. In the vicinity of Lauder, on the banks of the Leader, stands Thirlstane Castle, formerly styled Lauder Fort. According to tradition, it was originally erected by Edward I. during his invasion of Scotland; certain it is that it was built or rebuilt by Chancellor Maitland, and



der. The number of acres under wood (little of which is natural) is 650.

The trees commonly planted are Scotch and spruce firs, larch, oak, ash, beech, elm, birch, poplar, and willow. In the same plantation there is a mixture of trees, which are planted thick, for the purpose of affording shelter as they grow up. They are in general regularly and carefully pruned and thinned; and from time to time numbers of them are cut for forming paling, roofing houses, or making implements of husbandry.

Rent of Land.—The *rent* of arable land varies from L. 3 to 5s. per acre; the average of the whole may be 16s. The average rent of grazing a cow or full-grown ox in summer is L. 3, and of foddering it in winter, L. 1; and that of grazing for the year a sheep is, for the black-faced, 5s., for the Cheviot, 8s. and for the Leicester, 18s. Of grazing the three breeds overhead, 8s. may be stated as a fair average rent.

Rate of Wages.—Hinds, who form the most numerous class of farm-servants, and who are engaged for the year, are generally paid in money, oatmeal, barley, a cow's-keep, potatoes planted, and several small perquisites, all of which may be fairly computed at 9s. per week, or L. 23, 8s. per year. Each hind is bound to keep a woman servant called a *bondager*, to work at hay, turnips, &c. during the summer half year, at 10d. per day, without board. Single men-servants receive in the half year from L. 4, 4s. to L. 5, 5s. with board; women from L. 4, 4s. to L. 5, 5s. in summer, and in winter, from L. 1, 12s. to L. 2, 2s. with board and washing; common day labourers 9s. in winter, and 10s. in summer, per week, in hay and corn harvest, about the same wages, with the addition of board. Masons and carpenters get at the rate of 12s. per week, with victuals. Blacksmith work is generally done by contract, at L. 3 per annum for each pair of horses, including, besides shoeing the horses, all repairs on the ploughs, (excepting the cast metal used,) harrows, grapes, forks, &c.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The *sheep* most generally kept are of the Cheviot breed. On two or three of the highest farms the black-faced are kept, and numbers of the Leicester kind are depastured on the lower improved lands. Sheep of the last kind rising one year old receive turnips from three to five months, in winter and spring; the ewes receive turnips three or four weeks before they begin to lamb, after which they are put on the young grasses. In some instances, the Cheviot and the black-faced ewes are put to Leices-

ter tups, and their produce is sold in lambs, but the cross thus obtained is never used for breeding.

Of *cattle*, the common breed is the short-horned or Teeswater. It is thought by some intelligent farmers, that, if a smaller breed of cows were kept, such as the Kylvie, or some of the other northern varieties, and a good Teeswater bull, this cross would pay better, as a greater number of cows could be kept, and of calves reared, which would more than compensate for the larger size, and the superior prices of the others. The young cattle in winter and spring receive turnips from four to five months, along with straw, those rising three years are put on turnips in the middle of October, are fed from three to six months, and sold fat, to go to the market of Edinburgh or Morpeth. Such of the farmers (but they are not many) as do not rear so many as they require for their grass and turnips, buy for that purpose the Angus and West-Highland cattle, in nearly equal proportions.

Husbandry.—The general character of the husbandry pursued is not inferior to that of the husbandry of any part of the country. The *outfield* arable lands are, for the most part, allowed to remain two or three years in grass, when they are taken up for a crop of oats, succeeded by plain fallow or turnips, with manure; the third year they are cropped with oats or barley, with which perennial grass seeds are sown, after which they are subjected to a similar rotation of management. The *infield* lands are not seldom cropped in the *four*-shift rotations, (oats, turnips, barley, grass,) a system which, although it be not the best, necessity obliges the farmers to adopt. The greater part of the land being light soil, well adapted for turnip culture, large quantities of that valuable root are raised annually, of which one-half is white, and the other half yellow, and ruta бага. The husbandry would doubtless be improved by keeping the arable lands longer under pasturage, and by consuming more of the turnips upon the ground by sheep; to which, however, the climate and want of shelter in many places operate as hindrances.

Most of the land susceptible of aration has been *reclaimed* by draining,—by frequent ploughing and harrowing,—and by liming at the rate of ten single horse carts per acre. The arable land in various parts of the parish still needs to be more thoroughly *drained*. On the farms where Cheviot sheep are kept, the wet grounds have been much improved by small surface drains, fifteen inches wide, and nine inches deep, which cost one penny for six lineal

yards. *Irrigation*, though it be here unknown, might be advantageously practised on several spots. *Embanking* is nearly confined to the policy grounds of Thirlstane Castle, but it would be desirable that this improvement should be extended along the whole course of the Leader, as from the circuitous course of the river, and the gravelly nature of the subsoil, considerable damage is occasionally done to the best lands in the parish.

The duration of *leases* is almost universally nineteen years. When the farm requires to be limed all over, and much of it to be drained, it might be expedient that this period should be extended to twenty-five years, to allow the tenant sufficient time to reap the full benefit of his outlay.

The farm-buildings are, on the whole, good, and so also are the enclosures. Great and striking improvements, by draining, liming, and enclosing, have recently been made in the parish by various individuals, and, in particular, on the farms of Woodhead and Wyndhead,—the former occupied by the noble proprietor, the Earl of Lauderdale, and the latter by his son, Sir Anthony Maitland, on both of which farms every species of improvement is rapidly advancing to the limits of perfection. On these farms, as well as on one lately let, belonging to the Marquis of Tweeddale, superior office-houses have been erected, and the latter and Sir Anthony's have *steam* thrashing-machines, being the only machines of the description in this district of the county.

There is still a considerable quantity of arable land *unenclosed*. This may be owing to the unsuitableness of the soil for growing thorns in some places, and to the want of building materials in others; but now that whins or furze have been tried, and found to be no bad substitute for these, it is hoped that this defect will be speedily remedied.

Produce.—As nearly as the writer has been able to ascertain, the average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish is as follows:

Of grain of all kinds,	-	-	L. 14,082	0	0
Of potatoes and turnips,	-	-	5,428	0	0
Of hay, meadow and cultivated,	-	-	2,410	0	0
Of pasturage of cattle and sheep,	-	-	7,350	0	0
			<hr/>		
			L. 29,270	0	0 *

Lauderdale Agricultural Society.—An association, termed the

* Every person must be aware that it is difficult to obtain a correct or even a nearly correct estimate of the raw produce raised in a parish of such great extent, and farmed by so many individuals. It is probable that the total value of the produce is greater than what is exhibited in the above statement.

Lauderdale Agricultural Society, having for its object the improvement of the different breeds of stock, and improvements and discoveries in agriculture, in regard to tillage and the management of grass lands, as well as in all other matters connected with rural affairs, was established in 1830. The Earl of Lauderdale is patron of the society, and its funds are supported by his Lordship's very liberal subscription, and by the subscriptions of all the landholders, and most of the tenants, in the district. The funds, amounting to nearly L. 100, have been annually expended in premiums, awarded for the best specimen of breeding stock from any quarter. At the half-yearly meetings much excellent stock has been exhibited. The society is obviously fitted to exert a most beneficial influence on the improvement of the district.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Town.—The only town in the parish is Lauder, which is also a *market-town*. It has little or no trade, most of its inhabitants being small retailers, mechanics, day-labourers, or agriculturists. The *police* of the town is chiefly under the superintendence of the magistrates, who appoint a fiscal for the burgh, and occasionally hold bailie-courts for the determination of small debt cases, petty offences, &c. Formerly small debt courts were held monthly by the justices of the peace, but these are not now so regularly continued, especially since the Sheriff small debt court came into operation. In the course of last summer (1833) several public-spirited individuals combined to establish in Lauder a *weekly* market for corn, in order to accommodate the people in the district, and hitherto the scheme has met with some encouragement, but, as it is yet in its infancy, it would be premature to speak confidently of its ultimate success. The market-towns nearest to Lauder are, Kelso, distant seventeen, and Dalkeith, distant nineteen miles, to the last of which the farmers have been long accustomed to carry their corn, and from the neighbourhood of which they bring home lime and coal.

Means of Communication.—Very ample means of communication are enjoyed by the parish. It has a *post-office* in the town, and a daily mail, brought by the currie which runs through Lauderdale between Edinburgh and London. It has two turnpike roads; the one on the east side of Leader, (six miles long in the parish,) leading by Whitburn Inn to Greenlaw, Dunse, and Berwick, as well as to Coldstream and Kelso, and the other on the west side of the river, (eight miles long in the parish,) leading to

Melrose, to Jedburgh, and to Kelso by Earlston. On these roads travel five public carriages, which pass through Lauderdale, and four of them through Lauder, every lawful day to and from Edinburgh, Dunse, Kelso, Newcastle, &c. The two principal bridges cross the Leader, the one in the upper part of the parish, and the other a little to the east of Lauder. These, as well as the smaller bridges and the fences, are kept in good condition.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church, which formerly stood on the north of the town, fronting Thirlstane Castle, is now situated close to the town on its south-west side. Its distance is eight miles from the northern extremity of the parish, and five from the southern extremity. It could not be more conveniently situated, as upwards of half the population reside in the town, while few of the people in the country have to travel to it more than three or four miles. It was built in the year 1673. Since that period it has undergone frequent repairs, the last of which was in 1820; and though from its form, which is that of a cross, it is found to be somewhat incommodious, especially during the celebration in it of the Lord's Supper, it is on the whole substantial and tolerably well fitted up. It needs much to be heated, by means of stoves, in winter. It can conveniently hold 850 persons. No free sittings in it are appropriated to the poor; but all of this description who are willing to attend may be and are gratuitously accommodated. A handsome benefaction of four silver communion cups, and of two massy silver flagons, was granted to the church in 1677 by the noble family of Lauderdale.

The present *manse* was built in 1812. Of the glebe the extent is about nine acres, and the yearly value, now that it has been enclosed and much improved by the incumbent, may be L. 18. The stipend, as modified in 1816, is 17 chalders, one-half of which is oatmeal, the other half barley, payable by the highest fiars of the county. When it was afterwards localled, in consequence of the surrender of their teinds by the burgesses of Lauder and others, it was fixed at L. 67, 11s. 9d. Sterling, and 217 bolls, half meal and half barley, 3 bolls of oats, and 2 of bear. The stipend of last year (1832) exclusive of L. 10 for communion elements, was precisely L. 246, 3s. 4½d.

In the parish there were formerly two dissenting chapels, Anti-burgher and Burgher, which, in 1824, were merged into one, in connection with the United Associate Synod. Its minister is paid from the seat rents and from Sabbath collections, the rent also of a small

croft of land, and the interest of L. 100, both these being perquisites bequeathed by friends to the chapel. The amount of his stipend is L. 100, with a house and garden. The number of families in connection with the Established church is 318, and of persons of all ages connected with it, 1543. The dissenting chapel is frequented by persons from the neighbouring parishes of Westruther, Legerwood, Melrose, and Channelkirk, as well as from that of Lauder. It is seated to hold 400 people, and it is stated that 370 of the seats in it are let. In this parish the dissenters of all ages form about *one-fourth* of the total population. At the Established church, and at the chapel, divine service is generally, when the weather is favourable, well attended. The number of communicants at the Established church is about 650.

Religious Society.—In the parish a Bible and Missionary society was established in 1815, which, till 1832, contributed at an average yearly the sum of L. 17. Collections have also been made from time to time in the *church* in aid of the Scottish Missionary Society, and of the General Assembly's schools and Indian mission, which collections last year amounted to L. 15, 0s. 6d. It is proposed, agreeably to a recommendation of the presbytery of Lauder, that the General Assembly's educational and missionary schemes shall henceforth be supported by regular yearly collections in the church, or by a parochial association, or by both these combined.

Education.—In the parish there are four *schools*, all in the town of Lauder; one parochial, and three unendowed. The branches of instruction generally taught in *two* of these are, English reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, practical mathematics, Latin, French, and Greek. The other two schools, which are superintended by ladies, are attended chiefly by girls, who, in addition to reading, writing, and arithmetic, are taught also sewing. The *Bible* is read frequently in each of the schools, and the shorter catechism, psalms, and hymns are repeated, and occasionally explained. The parochial schoolmaster has the medium salary (L.30), and L.5 yearly given him by the magistrates of Lauder from the funds of the burgh, for teaching *poor* children. The other teachers are supported solely by the school fees, which, as well as the fees exacted by the parochial teacher, are, for reading, 2s. 6d.; for reading and writing, 3s. 6d.; for these, with arithmetic and practical mathematics, 4s. 6d.; and for the higher branches, 6s. per quarter. The general expense of education for the *year*, including the price

of books, and of paper and other incidental payments, is, for reading, 13s. ; for writing and reading, 18s. ; for these, with arithmetic, L. 1, 6s. ; for Latin, Greek, and French, L. 1, 12s. The parochial teacher has rather more than the legal house accommodation, and somewhat less than the legal extent of garden ground.

Of the young betwixt *six* and *fifteen* years of age who cannot read or write, there are probably *none*, and of persons above fifteen years of age who cannot read, there is reason to believe that there are not more than *two* (aged females,) whilst amongst those who are advanced in life there is doubtless a number, though comparatively small, who cannot *write*. The people in general are alive to the benefits of education, and evince that they appreciate these by sending their children to school at five or six years of age, and endeavouring to secure their attendance till they may acquire that useful learning which is necessary to fit them for discharging the duties of life, with credit to themselves, and advantage to society. At our parochial school were trained the present minister of Jedburgh, the minister of Hope Park Chapel, the Rev. John Wilson, an ordained minister of the Established church, and an intelligent, indefatigable, and useful missionary, now labouring at Bombay, under the direction of the Scottish Missionary Society, a promising young man about to receive license to preach the gospel, and a minister of the United Associate Synod.

In those parts of the parish which are at a considerable distance from the town of Lauder, parents find it more convenient to send their children to the parochial school of Channelkirk, to a private school at Spottiswoode, in the parish of Westruther, or to another of the same description at Blainslie, in the parish of Melrose. About 50 of our children are educated at these seminaries, to two of which those of them who attend have to travel from 2 to 2½ miles. An additional school, taught at a hamlet in the country district of the parish, would doubtless be advantageous. The average number of children in the whole parish attending school is about 300. Respecting the salutary influence of education there can be only one opinion ; and, since the means of this are here abundantly enjoyed, so they appear to be producing in a greater or less degree their usual beneficial effects on the moral habits and general welfare of the people.

Library.—A subscription library has long existed in Lauder, in which the principal persons in the parish have shares. There is also one more recently formed for mechanics, together with two libraries

furnished chiefly with religious books, which are lent to the young attending the Sabbath evening schools, (of which there are two,) as well as to persons more advanced in age.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society had been in the parish many years previous to 1814, when, in consequence of the expenses incurred by a litigation with one of its members, its funds were wasted, and the society dissolved. Another, the Brotherly Society of Free Masons, formed in 1772, still exists, having at present 82 brethren, and to such of them as are in distress, not obviously occasioned by their own immoral conduct, it affords seasonable pecuniary relief.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of persons at present receiving regular parochial relief is 22; of these, one, who is fatuous, receives 4s. per week; one, old and feeble, 3s. 6d.; and another, with a young family, also 3s. 6d.; these sums being the highest weekly allowances given to any of our paupers. The remaining 19 get from 1s. 3d. to 2s. Including the three who receive the highest sums, each pauper receives at an average per week about 2s. 1d., or per year, L. 5, 8s. 4d., so that the whole of the enrolled poor receive at the rate of L. 119, 3s. 4d. in the year. This expenditure is met by an assessment laid upon the heritors, who hold a meeting along with the minister and elders every half year, for the purpose of adjusting the roll and fixing the requisite supplies. The present annual assessment is L. 150, of which L. 30 are expended in the payment of house rent to several persons not yet taken on the roll, and of salary to the heritors' clerk, who collects the money and distributes it monthly. The church collections (in 1832) L. 39, 17s., and the money derived from the use of mortcloths, L. 9, 5s.; from use of a hearse, L. 6; and from the interest of L. 100, (mortified by the Rev. James Lindsay, a former minister of the parish,) L. 4, amounting in all to L. 59, 2s., are confided by the heritors to the sole disposal of the members of the session. From that sum they give to their clerk (who also provides a precentor) L. 5 yearly; to the beadle, L. 2; to the presbytery and synod clerks, and to the presbytery officer, L. 1. Of the balance, L. 51, 2s., they give at each of the half yearly meetings about L. 16 in donations, varying from 5s. to 12s., to a considerable number of persons verging towards pauperism, and a part of it they allot from time to time to the relief of such of the poor as may be in want, occasioned by the pressure of personal or domestic affliction. From their funds they also defray the expense connected with the burial

of paupers, and sometimes aid poor strangers who are overtaken with calamity in travelling from one place to another. It is an object steadily kept in view by the managers of our poor, to keep down as much as they can the legal assessment: and their efforts have not been altogether unsuccessful. The assessment is indeed still considerable, but at no distant period it was larger; for a number of years it has been pretty stationary, and although there be some who feel not the least delicacy in demanding such support as the law may afford them, yet in general our poor do appear to consider it as rather degrading to seek parochial relief, and therefore do not seek it till they be involved in real indigence.

Prison.—In Lauder there is a prison, containing three apartments, tolerably well-secured. It happily has seldom any inmates. In the course of last year a very few culprits were confined in it for a short period, on account of rioting or pilfering.

Fairs.—Five fairs are annually held in the parish, the first in the beginning of March, at which seed-corn is sold by sample, and the farmers engage their hinds; the second in April, for hiring single servants of both sexes for the ensuing half year; the third in June, at which a few cattle, chiefly milch cows, are sold; the fourth in July, at which lambs are exposed to sale; the fifth in October, for the same purpose as the one in April. The principal are the hiring fairs in April and October.

Inns, &c.—There are in the parish not fewer than 22 inns or public houses, 15 in the town and 7 in the country. Good would it be for the morals of the inhabitants, if the number of these (some of which are too often the haunts of folly and vice,) were greatly reduced. At the same time, it is but fair to state, that drunkenness seems to be somewhat less prevalent than it was formerly.

Fuel.—The fuel burnt by a few of the people who reside in the hilly parts of the parish is peat or turf; but coal is almost universally and solely used. It is brought from the neighbourhood of Pathhead, Mid-Lothian; its quality is generally good; but in consequence of the long carriage (14 or 15 miles) it costs the people, when laid down at their doors, about 10d. per cwt.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The appearance of the arable part of the parish is very much changed for the better since the period when the last Statistical Account was written. The lands are now far better cultivated by an intelligent and industrious tenantry, while the landlords (especially the principal one) have done much by draining, planting,

and enclosing, to add to the fertility of the soil, and improve the general aspect of the district. Both the turnpike and the cross roads are decidedly superior to what they were formerly. Forty years ago, only one stage-coach travelled every alternate day to Edinburgh, whereas at present five stage-coaches run through the parish every day to and from Edinburgh and other places. The desire of education seems to have more generally increased, and the style of it, too, is better. It must, however, be admitted, that there is abundant scope for additional improvements,—some of which have already been hinted at. Additional planting is required: and to promote the industry and frugality of the labouring-classes, and nourish in them a spirit of independence, it is desirable that there should be established in the parish a savings bank, in which they could from time to time deposit such sums as they might be able to spare from their necessary expenditure. It is always incumbent on the affluent and the influential of every description to do what they can to advance not merely their intellectual, but their religious and moral improvement. “Godliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. Righteousness exalteth a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.”

December 1833.

PARISH OF EARLSTON.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. DAVID WILLIAM GORDON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name—Boundaries.—THE name of this parish was originally Ercildoun, which is still used by some of the older inhabitants. The origin of the name is uncertain; but the place itself appears to have early attracted attention, and this may be sufficiently accounted for not only by its vicinity to the monasteries of Melrose and Dryburgh, but likewise by its having been the residence of Thomas the Rhymer, who, in many respects, was one of the most extraordinary men of his age. The parish is in length from east to west upwards of 6 miles, and about $4\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth. It is bounded on the west by Lauder and Melrose, on the south by Merton, on the east by Smailholm and Nenthorn, and on the north by Gordon and Ledgerwood.

Topographical Appearances.—The parish contains no mountain ranges, though part of the country be hilly; nor are any of its hills remarkable save one about a mile south of the village, which is thought to bear some impressions of having been the site of a Roman encampment, and rises nearly 1000 feet above the level of the sea.

Climate and Diseases.—The climate, more especially toward the west, is universally acknowledged to be mild, and thus, with a dry atmosphere, contributes to bestow upon the people considerable exemption from disease. It is observed by Mr Riddel, one of the surgeons of the parish, that the periodical epidemics are of a gentle nature. Scarlet fever has appeared but seldom since 1820, and even then no deaths occurred in the village from that disorder; typhus fever is of rare occurrence, and perhaps the free ventilation which the village enjoys, together with the healthy situations of the farm-houses, prevent the spread of that dangerous malady. Neither scrofula nor consumption is seen so often as formerly, while distem-

pers of the skin, so frequently observed among the lower orders of society, are here exceedingly rare.

Hydrography.—There are two rivers in the parish, the Eden and the Leader, both of which have their source in Lammermoor, and flow into the Tweed. And though neither of them be remarkable for breadth or depth, or extent, yet the Leader, on account of the beauty of its banks, has been justly celebrated in Scottish song. Its windings between the hills of Carolside and through the classic grounds of Cowdenknows, till its waters at Drygrange are lost in the principal river of the south of Scotland, form part of a scene of uncommon beauty.

Soil.—Considerable varieties of soil appear in the parish of Earlston. The arable land is for the most part dry; it is of a loamy rather than a sandy nature, and some of it is justly considered as strong and rich. A proportion of barren heath is here and there to be met with; and while in the eastern quarter there is a good deal of marshy ground, there is a moss in the northern division consisting of several hundreds of acres.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Persons.—Among the eminent characters connected with the parish both by birth and residence, a conspicuous place must be assigned to Sir Thomas the Rhymer, to whom a considerable portion of the lands of Ercildoun belonged. This extraordinary man lived about the end of the thirteenth century, and though it be not now easy to ascertain whether he himself made any pretensions to more than mortal knowledge, he was very soon after his death represented by his countrymen not only as a poet but as a prophet. The accounts which have descended to our own times concerning the predictions he is said to have uttered respecting many families of importance, and the ruin of the grandeur of his own family, and the union of the British nations under one monarch, together with the popular belief of his having been carried off at an early age to fairy land, are all particularly mentioned by Sir Walter Scott in a poem of uncommon beauty, to be found in the *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*.

The succeeding biography of the parish presents no such singular materials as those that are furnished by the history of this prophet or poet, but it affords others far more interesting and useful in the lives of several individuals who were distinguished not only by rank and talent, but by worth severely tried in the furnace of affliction. Among these individuals the Right Honourable George

Baillie, Esq. of Jerviswood, merits a conspicuous place. He was the son of the venerable patriot who in the reign of Charles II. fell a victim to a tyrannical government, and whether he be viewed as an exile soon after the death of his father, or as afterwards filling high offices of responsibility in his native land,—whether he be regarded as a member of Parliament or as a private gentleman, there are few men of his station who have left behind them such purity of character or more striking attestations of all that is useful and edifying both in public and private life. Nor was the worth of his wife, Lady Grizzel Baillie, either less conspicuous or tried less severely than his own. It was by means of her courage and caution in regularly bringing by night a necessary supply of food, that while as yet a child she preserved the life of her father, the Earl of Marchmont, when, persecuted by arbitrary power, he was forced to seek refuge in the confinement of a tomb. And when to this it is added, that the same true greatness of soul uniformly distinguished her behaviour both in the conjugal and in the parental relations, we can scarcely be surprised that a writer of no ordinary talent should have adopted this lady as a heroine of the highest order in the scale of female excellence.

But in mentioning some of the more eminent characters connected with the parish of Earlstoun, the writer of this article would consider himself as chargeable with unjust omission were he to pass unnoticed the late Mrs Baillie of Jerviswood, the mother of the present representative of that honourable house, since her conduct presents a most useful example to those of her own sex, who, possessing similar means of doing good, are at the same time placed in such circumstances as induce them too hastily to conclude that they have a just title to be exempted from several of the duties of life. This amiable woman was confined to bed during almost the whole of the last thirty-two years of her existence. Yet, instead of resigning herself to indolence, or satisfying herself with the performance of those offices of piety by which she was comforted in the solitude of her chamber, she was never more actively benevolent, even in her healthiest days. Her delight was to employ a messenger of kindness, whose office was to search out cases of distress, that to the indigent and helpless, to the ignorant and thoughtless, to the sick and dying, to widows and orphans she might communicate immediate and effectual relief.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners in the parish are George

Baillie, Esq. of Jerviswood ; Dr James Home of Cowdenknows ; Captain Brown of Park ; and James Home, Esq. of Carolside.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest entry in the parochial registers is the 30th September 1694. They are not voluminous, but are regularly kept, though for some years past parents have not been so attentive as before to the registration of births.

Antiquities.—The only remains of antiquity are, part of one of the walls of the tower or castle of Sir Thomas the Rhymer, the pit, and tower, and trees of Cowdenknows, a stone inserted into the front wall of the church, bearing the inscription “ Auld Rhymer’s race lies in this place,” and a stone taken from a grave, on which is a figure bearing a near resemblance to a Maltese cross. There existed some years ago, near the western extremity of the village, an ancient thorn tree, on which the fortunes of the place, according to the superstitious traditions of the older inhabitants, were alleged to depend.

Modern Buildings.—The venerable thorn, above alluded to, at length yielded to the tempest, and near the spot where it had long flourished, there now stands a handsome house, lately erected by a gentleman of the Law, whose correct taste has thus given an ornament to the town, and whose attention to the interests of the inhabitants may well reconcile them to the loss of their ancient thorn. The principal mansion-houses in the parish are Mellerstain, the princely residence of Mr Baillie, the house of Cowdenknows, whose adjoining scenery has been made classical by the beautiful melody of “ The Broom o’ the Cowdenknows,” and the house of Carolside, which, from the stillness of the vale around it, and from the hills which shelter it, and partly conceal it from the view, appears to the traveller a sweet and secure asylum from the toils and trouble of the world.

III.—POPULATION.

The population at present is 1710, of which number there are in the village of Earlston, 847 ; in Fans, 147 ; in Redpath, 114 ; in Mellerstain, 202 ; and in the country, 400.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	357
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	136
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	141
of other families,	-	-	-	80
2. The average number of deaths,	-	-	-	19
of marriages,	-	-	-	12

The number of families of independent fortune does not exceed

three, but there are at least eight proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of acres standard imperial measure, either cultivated, or occasionally in tillage, is 5600 ; and the number either constantly waste or in pasture is 2118. But there is no encouragement to add to the cultivated land, since the improvement of the waste has for the most part turned out not to the advantage, but to the loss of the cultivators. No part of the parish is in a state of undivided common. The number of acres in wood is 915 ; and on the Mellerstain estate, where there is a regular felling of timber for sale, a great extent of waste land has been planted chiefly with Scotch fir.

The management of plantations is on the whole good ; and on the estate of Cowdenknows much improvement has been made by plantations laid out with great taste, forming an ornament both to the scenery of the Leader, and to the village of Earlstoun.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land, per acre, is about 18s. : but in the immediate vicinity of the village, where the soil is uncommonly rich, some land rents so high as from L. 3 to upwards of L. 5. The common grazing allowance for a cow is L. 3 ; that for a full-grown sheep, 15s.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of married farm-labourers vary from L. 25 to L. 30 per annum. An unmarried male-servant, within the house, has from L. 9 to L. 11, while unmarried women receive about L. 7. The current wages of women labouring in the field are 10d. per day in summer, and 8d. in winter ; and 1s. 8d. in summer, and 1s. 6d. in winter, are the ordinary allowance for men. Masons, when employed by the day, receive from 2s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. Blacksmiths, contracting by the draught or pair of horses, have from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3. The ordinary wages of carpenters are from 2s. to 2s. 6d. per day, but they have stated prices for the various implements of husbandry. Weavers are at present in poor circumstances, as they are unable, with all diligence, to gain more than 9s. per week.

Husbandry.—The prevailing kinds of stock in the parish are the Leicester breed of sheep, and the short-horned breed of cattle, to both of which considerable attention is paid. The five-shift husbandry, as it is usually denominated, is the system generally followed, where the land, after being two years in grass, is cropped with oats, next with turnips, then with oats or barley and grass,

which closes the rotation. Little wheat is sown, as the soil is suited chiefly for turnips, in the cultivation of which bone manure, recently introduced, has proved an excellent substitute for dung. Every acre of waste that could repay the labour of the farmer has been improved. The wet arable has been generally dried by draining; and the extensive moss already mentioned having been redeemed at an expense of from L. 1200 to L. 1400, affords now tolerable grazing for cattle. With regard to the leases, there is no doubt that, were they longer than they are, the effect would be a considerable increase of agricultural improvement. They run at present from fifteen to twenty-one years. The principal proprietor, Mr Baillie of Mellerstain, has been at great expense in improving the farm-offices on his extensive property; and as the parish is nearly all enclosed, so the fences being generally kept at the mutual cost of landlord and tenant, are thus preserved from the neglect which they might otherwise experience.*

Manufactures.—There are two manufactories in the parish, one belonging to Miss Whale and Company, the other to Mr Wilson. The former is a manufactory of gingham, merinos, shawls, muslins, shirtings, and furniture stripes,—the latter of plaidings, blankets, and flannels; and in both, but more especially in the former, employment is given to many who would otherwise be destitute. In Miss Whale's establishment, where the whole is wrought by hand-loom weaving, work is afforded to fifty weavers, and to about sixteen additional individuals, chiefly women and children. In Mr Wilson's manufactory, where upwards of forty are employed, some of the men gain 12s., and the children 2s. 6d., per week. They work eleven hours per day; and as yet no bad effect has appeared, either on the health or the morals of the workmen.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The nearest market-town, Melrose, is distant about five miles. But there is a post-office in the village of Earlston; and on the road which passes through it, and extends five miles in length from one end of the parish to the other, there is a daily coach from Edinburgh to Kelso, and from Kelso to Edinburgh.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church, built in the year 1736, and now undergoing an extensive repair, stands in the village of

* An estimate of the average gross amount and value of raw produce raised in the parish may probably be stated in the general summary of this county.

Earlston. It is almost in one extremity of the parish, and is five miles distant from the other. It has hitherto been unable to afford accommodation to more than 450 persons, of whom none, with the exception of the heritors, have free sittings; but, besides the repair, it is now also receiving an enlargement, which will be capable of holding nearly 200.—The manse was erected in 1814, and repaired in 1824.—The stipend is 16 chalders.—The glebe, which is between 7 and 8 acres in extent, is so valuable, as to let at upwards of L. 5 per acre.

Among benefactions for religious and charitable purposes, the following may be mentioned as the most interesting and important, viz. L. 50 by the late Honourable Mrs Baillie of Jerviswood, for the more frequent dispensation of our Lord's supper; L. 200 by Mr Tod of Kirklands, for coals to the poor; L. 86 for the same purpose, by a person whose name is at present forgotten; L. 600 by J. Wilson, Esq. surgeon, Bombay, for the benefit of the parish school, and L. 30 for teaching the children of the enrolled poor.

There are two dissenting chapels in the parish, one of which, belonging to the Antiburgher Seceders, has existed almost from the commencement of the Secession, while the other, connected with the Relief church, is not more than fifty years old. The stipend of the minister of the Antiburgher chapel does not exceed L. 100, nor does that of the Relief minister amount to more than L. 120, and both are raised from the seat-rents. and from the weekly collections on the Sabbath. In the former congregation there may be a few more, and in the latter a few less, than 300 communicants. The number of persons of all ages connected with the Established church is about 800. The number regularly attending is about 400. The number of communicants at the last dispensation of the sacrament was 404. And the average amount of church collections yearly may be stated at L. 22.

Education.—There are at present three schools in the parish, two of which are endowed; one of these is at Mellerstain, where the teacher has a salary of L. 5 from Mr Baillie, and where the ordinary branches are taught. The other is the parochial school, where the teacher's salary is L. 28, and where the branches of instruction taught are, English, reading, and grammar, writing, arithmetic, practical mathematics, algebra, geometry, plain and spherical trigonometry, Latin, Greek, and French.

The people, in general, are alive to the benefits of education;

nor do I know a single family in the parish, any of whose members, from six to fifteen years of age, have not been taught to read.

Library, Friendly Society, and Savings Bank.—The other institutions existing in the parish are a Subscription Library, and a small library for children; a Friendly Society for affording relief to its sick members; and a Savings Bank for the lower classes of the people, in which there may be at present about L. 100.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 34. The average sum allotted to each is 8s. per month, which is raised by regular half-yearly assessments. A few individuals may occasionally be met with who are unwilling to be placed on the roll of paupers; but it must be acknowledged, that the people in general are not reluctant to apply, and that they consider it as no degradation to receive a regular support.

Inns.—In the town of Earlston there are four inns, and six other houses where ale and spirits are sold.

Fairs.—There are here also two annual fairs for horses and cattle, one of which is held on the 29th of June, and the other on the third Thursday of October.

Fuel.—The principal fuel is coal, which, as it is brought chiefly from the neighbourhood of Dalkeith, a distance of twenty miles, seldom costs less than 1s. or 1s. 2d. per cwt.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Among the variations between the present state of the parish and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, considerable improvements in the system of husbandry deserve to be noticed, together with the erection of a considerable number of neat and comfortable houses in the village of Earlston. And, while much advantage is anticipated from an intended alteration in the road from Kelso to Edinburgh by the way of Earlston, the facilities of communications would be still much increased were a line of road made from Fans through the waste land eastward to the Edinburgh turnpike by the neighbouring parish of Gordon.

June 1834.

PARISH OF MERTON.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

REV. JAMES DUNCAN, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—In the immediate vicinity where the old village stood there is a piece of marshy ground. Perhaps from this, both the village and parish may have been designated Mire-town or Mertoun. The parish is situated in the south-west corner of Berwickshire. It is bounded on the south by the river Tweed, on the north by Earlston, and on the east by Smailholm and Makerston. In length the parish may be about six miles, and in breadth from two to three.

Topographical Appearances, &c.—The western part of the parish stands high, and is extremely picturesque. From Bemersyde hill, the property of James Haig, Esq. over which one of the most public roads in the parish passes, the eye of the traveller is at once gratified with every thing beautiful and magnificent,—wood, water, hills, ruins, and fertile fields. The rest of the parish gradually declining to the south is also extremely pleasant, the prospect being agreeably diversified by excellent enclosures, beautiful hedges, and thriving plantations. The soil towards the Tweed, particularly the haughs, is sharp, with a gravelly bottom. Towards the north, and indeed through the rest of the parish, with very few exceptions, is a stiff clay with a till bottom.

There are no lakes in the parish, and very few springs; consequently, in very dry seasons, the farmers are sometimes at a loss for water to their cattle.

The rocks are all greenstone and other trap-rocks, except on the banks of the Tweed, where they are deposits of old red sandstone. This latter stone is very durable, and admits of the highest polish.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

It may deserve notice, that Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden, having purchased the library of his grandfather, the Right Honourable

the Earl of Marchmont, has in consequence of this, in his possession, a number of letters, papers, pictures, and other documents relative to Scottish history.

Land-owners.—The principal, and indeed the only land-owners in the parish, are Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden ; James Haig, Esq. of Bemersyde ; Sir David Erskine of Dryburgh ; Charles Riddell, Esq. of Musilee ; and John Anderson, Esq. of Gladswood.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of our parochial registers is 1697. They have been very irregularly kept, and contain nothing of any importance.

Antiquities.—The Abbey of Dryburgh, so much admired by travellers, lies in the south-west corner of the parish ; but, as an account of it, written by the late Right Honourable the Earl of Buchan, is published in Grose's Antiquities, it is unnecessary to say any thing about it.

Modern Buildings.—It may be proper to remark, that the late Earl of Buchan, with a liberality that does honour to his memory, erected a suspension bridge across the Tweed 261 feet. This bridge is a great accommodation to the public, as foot-passengers and single horses can pass at all times with safety. On a little eminence at this end of the bridge, he erected a circular building, which he designated the Temple of the Muses. The workmanship is well executed ; and, taken in conjunction with the adjoining scenery, forms a beautiful object.

He also erected at a short distance, upon the brow of the conterminous hill, a colossal statue of Sir William Wallace. This is chiefly remarkable, as being the workmanship of a common stonemason who had never been taught sculpture. It is a conspicuous object from the turnpike road leading to Jedburgh.

III.—POPULATION.

Return to Dr Webster in 1755,	-	502
Census taken in 1791,	.	557
Do. in 1811,	.	614
Do. in 1821,	.	610
Do. in 1831,	.	664

In the last there are 312 males and 352 females. The increase arises from most of the proprietors and their families being resident at the time the census was taken, and also from several new cottages being built for the farmers' married servants.

1. Number of families in the parish,	.	128
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	.	86
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	.	18

Males under 5,	-	38	Females under 5,	-	29
5 to 10,	-	37	5 to 10,	-	44
10 to 15,	-	35	10 to 15,	-	37
15 to 20,	-	46	15 to 20,	-	39
20 to 30,	-	43	20 to 30,	-	61
30 to 40,	-	44	30 to 40,	-	45
40 to 50,	-	33	40 to 50,	-	32
50 to 60,	-	15	50 to 60,	-	25
60 to 70,	-	17	60 to 70,	-	23
70 to 80,	-	8	70 to 80,	-	7
80 to 90,	-	1			
Total, 312			Total, 342		

Average number of children in a family may be 5.

The baptisms, marriages and deaths in the parish have been as follows:

	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Deaths.
1824,	12	5	4
1825,	13	1	5
1826,	10	5	3
1827,	15	9	10
1828,	10	3	4
1829,	5	8	5
1830,	11	3	9
1831,	3	10	6

There has been one illegitimate birth in the parish during the last three years.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The total number of acres in the parish is about 5550. The number of acres annually sown, and the average return per acre, may be nearly as follows:—

	Acres.	Average return in bushels per acre.
Wheat, .	434	21
Oats, .	951	34
Barley, .	1561	29
Pease, .	139	22
Beans, .	16	30
Turnips, .	359	
	3460	

Perhaps there are 300 acres capable of being cultivated with a profitable application of capital; and there are about 500 acres under wood. There is no land in undivided common.

Husbandry.—The land sown with wheat and barley is generally sown down with grass seeds, and this is either pastured or cut for hay, as circumstances may require. Much improvement has taken place within the last twenty years in every department of farming, though much yet remains to be performed. A good deal of ground has been drained, and a considerable quantity of lime used; the expense, however, of the latter is so great,—from 10s. 6d. to 13s. per single cart,—that an adequate remuneration is seldom obtained. But this evil might be remedied in some degree by the use of shell-marl, of which an abundant supply can be got in the

parish. But the price of this, 1s. 2d. per single cart, and the expense of driving the quantity requisite, preclude the farmers in a great measure from using it. Would the proprietor, Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden, charge no more than the mere expense of taking it out of the pit, both he and his tenants would find their advantage in it, especially if the latter were obliged to lay it upon the grass sward, and submit it to the action of frost; for, being of an adhesive quality till it is pulverized by frost, it can have little or no effect upon the soil. Besides, this could be done at less expense than spreading it in its natural state upon fallow, and the beneficial effects either as to grass or corn would be sooner felt. This marl was carefully analyzed by the late Dr Kennedy of Edinburgh, and found to contain about 73 per cent. of carbonate of lime.

Though spouts or springs are not frequent, yet surface water is not drained off so completely as it ought to be. Except at the commencement of a lease, the ditches are seldom scoured or kept clean, and, of course, the surface-water cannot be drained off. Were a person accustomed to the use of the spade mutually employed by landlord and tenant, this evil might be easily remedied; and, what would be no inconsiderable advantage, if this person could cut and clean hedges, the fences would be kept in better order.

It would be uncandid not to acknowledge that the landlords have been extremely liberal in giving their tenants good houses, and every accommodation necessary in point of offices and curtains or courts for their different kinds of stock. Much also has been done in the improvement of roads, so that, with few exceptions, there is now easy access from every part of the parish to the neighbouring turnpikes; and last, though not least, a mill upon a large scale has been erected. The machinery is of the most approved kind, and fitted to manufacture every kind of grain, and has at all times an abundant supply of water. A tenant of skill and enterprise might carry on an extensive and lucrative business.

A great improvement has taken place since the introduction of bone dust, as by this excellent turnips are raised, and the farmer is enabled to give a greater quantity of dung for the production of wheat.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The greatest attention is paid to the rearing of stock. The cattle, with few exceptions, are of the short-horned breed, and these are kept up or improved by buying annually at high prices, from the best breeders in the south, bulls and cows of that kind. The sheep are of the best Leicester kind. Some years ago, Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden, pur-

chased a stock of these, which were selected from the best flocks in England; and to keep up this stock, and still further to improve it, he annually either hires or buys the best tups that can be got; and, in order to accommodate his tenants and benefit the neighbourhood, he rears from his carefully selected stock, a considerable number of tups, which are regularly sold by auction towards the end of September. Much attention is also paid to the rearing of horses, both for the draught and saddle.

The following is the amount of the different kinds of stock kept, bred, and fed in the parish.

Draught horses,	103	mersyde in parks annually let by	
Do. bred annually,	18	auction,	150
Young horses from 1 to 3 years old,	42	Ewes,	870
Kept for saddle, hunting, carriages,		Lambs produced from these,	940
&c.	23	Lambs sold annually,	494
Cows,	146	Lambs bought in for hogging,	280
Calves reared annually, a part of		Sheep annually fed for the butcher,	
which are bought in,	174	a part of which are bought in,	640
Cattle fed for the butcher,	108	Sheep sold lean,	130
Do. sold lean,	72	Swine annually fed,	150

Cattle grazed at Dryburgh and Be-

Rent of Land.—A considerable quantity of ground, well enclosed, sheltered, and watered, is annually let by auction for grazing; the rent varies from L. 1, 10s. to L. 2, 10s. per acre. The average rent of land upon a lease of 19 or 21 years may be from 15s. to 20s. per acre. The real rent of the parish is betwixt L. 5000 and L. 6000 per annum.

Price of Labour.—A hind receives per annum 5 loads of oatmeal; 15 bushels of barley; 6 bushels of pease; 1000 yards of potatoes planted; 5 single carts of coals drawn, but he pays the price at the coal-hill; a cow kept summer and winter; L. 3 in money; he furnishes a shearer for his house, and provides his master with a worker, who is paid 10d. and 8d. in winter per day. Single men who live in the farmer's house receive from L. 7 to L. 8 per annum and their victuals: women from L. 5, 10s. to L. 6, 10s. per annum and their victuals: day-labourers from 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day without victuals: men in harvest from 12s. to 13s. 6d. per week with victuals: women in do. from 11s. to 12s. 6d. per week with victuals: smiths are paid by the year for a pair of farm horses from L. 2, 15s. to L. 3; joiners per day, 2s.; masons, 2s. 6d.

Quarries.—Though sandstone or freestone abounds on the banks and in the bed of the river, no quarry has been wrought for many years. This is no small inconvenience, nor can it be remedied without a greater expense than the proprietors are willing to incur.

Fisheries.—We have three salmon fisheries; but they are not

very productive, and, consequently, the rent derived from them is but trifling. The fishers follow the practices of their forefathers, in angling, setting small nets in cairns when the river is in flood, and killing the salmon with listers when the river is small and the evening serene: and this they call burning the water, because they are obliged to carry a lighted torch in the boat. Long nets, such as are used near Berwick, and upon the Tay and Tummel in the north, might certainly be employed in many places with great safety and advantage.

There is a large orchard belonging to Sir David Erskine at Dryburgh, which yields from L. 100 to L. 150 per annum.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There are three small villages in the parish. The means of communication are very scanty, and not a little inconveniently placed. We have no turnpike roads, no coaches nor carriers. In the village of Lessudden there is a daily post; and though in a direct line it is not above two miles distant; yet the Tweed intervening, it is at all times inconvenient, and sometimes impracticable of access, unless we go nearly double the distance, by Dryburgh, where there is a Suspension Bridge.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the church is extremely beautiful, being placed in the midst of a grove close to the patron's house and policy; it is, however, extremely inconveniently placed both for the minister and people, being about a mile from the manse, and about the same distance from the centre of the parish. It was built in the year 1658, and repaired in the year 1820. It is remarkably well fitted up, and in the most complete repair; all the sittings are free, every tenant has a pew assigned to him, and there is a gallery appropriated in common to cottagers and farm-servants.—The manse was built in the year 1767, and has undergone various repairs.—The glebe is 14 acres, and may be worth L. 14 per annum.—The stipend is 16 chalders, with L. 10 for communion elements.—There are no chapels of ease nor dissenting meeting-houses in the parish. The average number of communicants may be about 240. The collections in the church are from L. 16 to L. 18 per annum. The church will accommodate about 380; and is generally well attended. It is difficult to estimate the number of dissenting families in the parish,—as they are chiefly those of married servants, whose residences fluctuate.

Education.—The only seminary in the parish is the parochial school, at which the average number of scholars may be from thirty

to forty. English, writing, arithmetic, practical mathematics, Greek, and Latin, are taught. The salary is L. 30; and the school wages may amount to L. 10 per annum. Besides the above emoluments, the teacher has L. 4, 4s. for precenting in church and officiating as session-clerk. He has also every legal accommodation in respect of a house and garden. When parents are very poor, the heritors make no difficulty in paying for the education of their children.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—Poors' rates were established in the year 1771; they may amount to about L. 30 or L. 40 per annum. This, with the annual collections in the church, is generally sufficient. The heritors, however, by no means restrict themselves to this, but cheerfully assess themselves to the full amount of what the minister and session deem necessary. The landlords and tenants pay in equal proportions; and though the latter are not consulted when the assessment is made, they have never been known to grudge their share. The average number of poor upon the roll is about 8. They receive from 1s. to 2s. 6d. per week, according to circumstances. It deserves notice, that the poor in this parish are provided for at less expense than in any parish of the same extent in the south of Scotland. This arises chiefly from the custom of giving temporary supply in cases of distress, and also from the extreme liberality and attention of the patron's family.

Inns.—There are no inns in the parish, nor is any person allowed to sell spirituous liquors.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The greatest inconvenience experienced by this parish is the distance from coal and lime, 25 miles. Every cwt. of the former costs 1s. 3d., and every single cart of the latter, from 10s. 6d. to 13s. Another great inconvenience is, the want of an easy and ready communication with the south side of the river, unless by the suspension bridge at Dryburgh, which is useful only for foot-passengers or single horses. There is no bridge nearer than Kelso, which is nine miles, or Drygrange bridge, which is four miles. A suspension bridge for carriages, &c. if erected in this immediate neighbourhood, would be of immense use; it would not only benefit this and the conterminous parishes, but would continue the road from Selkirk and St Boswell's Green to Berwick.

June 1834.

PARISH OF GORDON.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JAMES PATERSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE name of this parish was originally *Goirtean*, signifying in Gaelic a little field—a little farm—a little corn field. It lies in the western part of the Merse, Berwickshire, and is about 7 miles long, by from 2 to 4 in breadth, containing about 21 square miles. Its form is oval; and it is bounded on the west by part of the parish of Legerwood; on the north by part of Legerwood, Westruther, and part of Greenlaw; on the east by Greenlaw; and on the south by Hume, now annexed to the parish of Stichel, and by part of Earlstoun. It contains no mountains; and the whole surface is uneven and hilly. The situation of the parish is high, and the atmosphere in general pure and salubrious. The district is exposed to no prevalent distempers.

The small river Eden runs through the parish from north to south, dividing it nearly into two equal parts. The Blackadder bounds it on the north-east for upwards of two miles, separating it from Greenlaw.

The only species of rock with which the district abounds consists of pieces of whinstone, varying in weight from two tons to a few pounds. These blocks are thickly scattered over the surface of those moors which are as yet uncultivated; and it is evident that much of the land now under tillage must have at one time been encumbered with them. There are no masses of rock. In some places small beds of red sandstone are to be found, but so very friable as to be of little or no use.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Family of Gordon.—This parish at one time contained the residence and part of the possessions of the noble family of Gordon, who took their name from the place. They are said to have settled here in the reign of Malcolm Canmore, and to have removed to the north of Scotland about three or four centuries ago. It is con-

jectured, that, at their departure, they transferred some names of places from their old to their new domains. Thus Huntly, a parish with which they are connected in the north, was also the name of a small hamlet which existed till of late, and stood in the western extremity of the parish. A solitary tree still stands to mark the spot. A little to the north of the village of West Gordon, an eminence, dignified by the appellation of *The Castle*, is yet pointed out as the spot on which the ancestors of the Duke of Gordon had fixed their residence. A moat or ditch may still be traced; but the whole is now covered with plantations, and even the very name is becoming obsolete.

Greenknow tower, now nearly in ruins, was once the residence of a zealous Covenanter, Pringle of Greenknow, whose memoirs have been lately published.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are, Baillie of Jerviswood; Fairholm of Greenknow; Robertson of Ladykirk; Hamilton of Rumbletonlaw; Innes of Stow; and Erskine of Shieldfield.

Parochial Registers.—The first date in the parochial registers is the 11th of January 1652. They are on the whole regularly kept, especially of late.

III.—POPULATION.

Amount of population by census of 1801,	.	800
1811,	.	850
1821,	.	737*
1831,	.	882

The great proportion of the population is rural. The only village in the parish is West Gordon, which contains about 300 inhabitants.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	185
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	106
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	36
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	-	5
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	-	-	20
3. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	-	23
deaths,	-	-	-	-	14
marriages,	-	-	-	-	6
4. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	-	315
upwards of 70,	-	-	-	-	49

* The decrease in the population in 1821 was accounted for in the return which was then made out, and which was engrossed in the session records of the parish, from the system which had been adopted some time before by proprietors, of dividing and letting out their lands in large instead of small farms, as formerly. According to this theory, the effect of such a change did not become apparent till 1821. Large farms require proportionably fewer hands to cultivate them than small ones, and this, together with the various improvements which have taken place in the system of husbandry, tended, it was alleged, to diminish the number of the inhabitants. The gradual increase since may be accounted for in the ordinary way, and from the increase of houses in the village of West Gordon, which, from the facility of obtaining fuel from Greenknow Moss, in the immediate neighbourhood, are easily let.

There are no nobility, nor individuals or families of independent fortune residing in the parish.

The parish has been long remarkable for the number of insane persons residing in it. At present there are only 3, 1 blind person, and 1 deaf and dumb.

Character and Habits of the People.—They are rather remarkable for the persevering steadiness with which they attend to their several occupations, and for their industrious and frugal habits. Like all who are actively engaged in the business of life, the people are disposed to relax at times, and to seek a reasonable degree of enjoyment in a frank and friendly intercourse with one another. This disposition shows itself among all classes of society. They possess a considerable extent of religious knowledge; and this, from their fondness for reading, is every day gaining ground. Many of the better sort evince a knowledge and a taste in literary matters which would do credit to men in far more elevated stations, and with far superior advantages. Smuggling is almost unknown: not so poaching.

The number of illegitimate births in the parish for the last three years has been 7.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

The number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish which are cultivated, or occasionally in tillage, is about	4300
acres which have never been cultivated, and which remain constantly waste, or in pasture, about	4100
acres in undivided common,	0
under wood, about	500

The trees are mostly fir, intermixed with some beech, oak, elm, &c. I am informed that about 1000 acres might be added to the cultivated land. But it appears doubtful whether even the occasional cultivation of such land would repay the trouble, expense, and risk attending it. A few good crops might be got at first, after which the land would become less profitable either for crops or grass.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of the arable land may amount to about L. 1 per acre. The average rent of grazing in the whole parish, at the rate of L. 2, 10s. on good grass land, and L. 1, 10s. on meadow and waste, per ox or cow grazed; and at the rate of 18s. per ewe, or full-grown sheep, pastured for the year,—may amount to about L. 3300.

Rate of Wages.—Farm-labourers receive, in summer, 1s. 8d. per day, and in winter, 1s. 6d. Masons receive 2s. 6d. per day, and joiners the same.

Husbandry.—The system of husbandry pursued is excellent, being the same which has been practised for a considerable time past in several of the southern counties of Scotland, and in the north of England. The land in general is light and sandy, well adapted for the growth of turnips. In cropping it is divided for the most part into five breaks. These breaks are cultivated in regular rotation as follows:—The first crop is made to consist of oats; the second of turnips, one-half of which is eaten by sheep on the land, and the other half is led in to fatten cattle; the third of barley, when grass and clover seeds are also sown; the fourth is a hay crop or pasture; and the fifth is allowed to remain entirely in pasture.

Much has already been done in reclaiming waste land, and in draining. In the latter respect something, perhaps, may still be done, but it is doubtful if much, or any, of the waste land could be reclaimed so as to afford profit to the farmer. The farm-buildings are substantial and commodious. The arable land is all enclosed with stone-dikes or thorn hedges, and many of the fields are now well sheltered.

During the late war, when all kinds of farm produce were sold at high prices, a considerable quantity of waste land was brought into a state of cultivation; and though improvements of this kind are nearly given up, yet other improvements are still carrying on; and if any obstacles to these can be said to exist, they are to be found in the articles of lime and markets, the distance to both being upwards of 25 miles.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as that can be ascertained, under the following heads, may be rated as follows:

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals,	L. 10,230	0	0
Of potatoes, turnips, &c.	1,788	0	0
Of hay, whether meadow or cultivated,	400	0	0
Of land in pasture, rating it at L. 2 per cow, or full-grown ox, grazed, or that may be grazed for the season; at 18s. per ewe, or full-grown sheep, pastured, or that may be pastured for the year,*	2,927	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L. 15,345	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town, &c.—The nearest market-town is Kelso, at the distance of about eight miles. The only village is West Gordon.

Means of Communication.—There is no post-office; yet there is no want of means of communication. The road from Kelso to

* The ox is calculated for the summer grass, the sheep for the whole year.

Edinburgh crosses the parish at the broadest part ; and another road from Earlston to Greenlaw traverses its whole length. Besides these, there are a good many parish roads, leading from the main ones to the several farm-houses ; and these are kept in tolerably good order.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church stands nearly in the centre of the parish, and is very conveniently placed for the greater part of the population. It was built in 1763, but has since undergone several repairs. At present, it is in rather an indifferent state, particularly as regards the seats. * It is capable of containing about 400 sitters. There are a few free seats, which may accommodate about 50.—The manse was built in 1803.—The glebe consists of 12 acres of arable land, and might be let at a rent of from L. 25 to L. 30 per annum.—The stipend is payable partly in money and partly in grain. The money stipend amounts to L. 90 per annum. The grain stipend, which is paid by the fiars of the county once a-year, consists of meal, 16 bolls, 2 firlots, 1 peck, 3 lippies ; barley, 16 bolls, 2 firlots, 1 peck, 3 lippies ; oats, 28 bolls, 3 firlots ; bear, 25 bolls.

There are no Dissenting, Seceding, Episcopalian, or Roman Catholic chapels in the parish. The number of families attending the Established church may amount to about 173. Persons of all ages attending it may be calculated at about 350 or 400. The number of Dissenters and Seceders cannot much exceed 50. There are neither Episcopalians nor Roman Catholics. Divine service at the Established church is tolerably well attended.

There are no societies for religious purposes, but the average amount of church collections yearly for religious and charitable objects may be about L. 17.

Education.—The parochial school is the only one in the parish. Besides the ordinary branches, practical mathematics, geography, and Latin, are taught. The salary is the maximum, and the schoolmaster has more than the legal accommodation. His fees amount annually to about L. 20. There are few, if any, of the young betwixt six and fifteen who can neither read nor write, and none whatever upwards of fifteen. All classes are alive to the advantages of a good education ; and parents in the humblest condition of life exert themselves to the utmost to secure for their children as much education as possible.

Library.—A parish library was established upwards of ten years

* A contract has been made to renew the seating of the church.

ago. It is in a flourishing state, and has been the means of spreading a taste for general reading.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 25. The average sum allotted to each per week is 1s. 4½d., or per year, L. 5, 3s. 0½d. The annual amount of contributions for the relief of the poor, besides the church collections, is L. 142, 16s. 4d. The only regular mode of procuring funds is by assessments on the landed property, and by church collections. The church collections for 1833 amounted to L. 14, 2s. 7½d. In some cases there is a backwardness shewn in soliciting relief; and instances have occurred wherein the parties have been known to submit to many privations rather than resort to what they consider the last shift.

Inns, &c.—There is one inn and one alehouse; neither of which at all tend to the promotion of good morals.

Fuel.—The fuel used consists of peat and turf. Coal, which is brought from a distance of twenty-four miles, is also used, but not so generally.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Improvements in the parish have been going on since the last Statistical Account was written. The chief of these has been the planting of part of the moors, which has greatly improved the appearance of the country.

There is a circumstance relating to the improvement of some waste land in the neighbourhood of the village, which is well worthy of the attention of political economists. In 1787, the then proprietor of Greenknow estate sold in perpetual feu about 100 acres of his moors to purchasers, in lots of from forty acres to two. The lots were disposed of at L. 5, L. 3, and L. 1, 10s. per acre, with 1s. per acre of feu annually. No sooner were the purchases made, than the feuars commenced the clearing of their lands; and some idea may be formed of the laborious nature of the undertaking, when it is stated, that in most places upwards of a thousand tons of stones per acre had to be raised and removed before the soil was capable of bearing any crop. Many of these stones had to be blown with powder before they could be carried away. In marshy places, draining also had to be resorted to; and some of these drains measure six feet wide and five feet deep. This helped to get rid of the stones. Another method was by building small enclosures of from one to six acres. Some of the dikes thus built measure from three to four and a-half feet thick, and four feet high.

The whole is now in a state of cultivation, and more or less productive. On the best land, eight bolls of barley per acre have been produced, and, on an average, eight bolls of oats.

Part of the lots were sold to labourers and trades-people, who, employing all their spare time in bringing their small properties into a condition fit for tillage, have at last greatly ameliorated their condition. It may be mentioned, as a proof how well even soils of an inferior quality will pay from this mode of treatment, that a lot of twenty-four acres, which was originally purchased for L. 72, was sold for L. 900 a few years ago. I have presumed to state these facts, as an evidence that even the worst soils will in the end well repay all the labour required to bring them into an arable state, provided liberal encouragement, as in the present instance, be granted to such purchasers as are above described, if sold in similar lots.

P. S.—Since writing the above, $27\frac{1}{2}$ acres of moor contiguous to that sold in 1787 has been disposed of on the same conditions, at from L. 21 to L. 5 per acre,—average price L. 11. It was disposed of by public roup, and put up in lots of about two acres each. Several proprietors of the old feus became purchasers, and some of them bought several lots together, amounting to 12, 8, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Only two individuals bought lots a piece. The soil in these new feus is by no means good; some of it is decidedly bad, and none of it surpasses the greater part of that of the old feus; yet I have no doubt but in the course of time it will prove a profitable speculation to those who have bought it.

June 1834.

PARISH OF GREENLAW.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. ABRAHAM HOME, MINISTER.

L.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—GREENLAW is said to have stood originally where the farm onstead of Old Greenlaw is now situated, about a mile from the present town. This is the more likely, as the present town stands in a vale upon the banks of the Blackadder, whereas Old Greenlaw stands upon a round hill, or detached eminence, of which kind there are several in the parish, and which, from their conical figure, are well known in Scotland by the name of *Laws*. It is from one of these, which, in the original uncultivated state of the country, was greener than the others, that the town and parish have evidently derived their name. The parish is between 8 and 9 miles in length from north-west to south-east, and on an average about 3 miles in breadth; is of the form of an irregular parallelogram, with the corners rounded off; and is bounded on the east by the parishes of Polwarth and Fogo; on the south by Eccles and Hume; on the west by Gordon; and on the north by Westruther, Longformacus, and a part of Cranshaws.

Meteorology.—Climate.—At Greenlaw, which is well sheltered by the surrounding eminences, the air is mild. It is more so in the south than in the north division of the parish, where the winds during the spring and autumn months are keen and penetrating. The town and parish are particularly healthy, and no epidemical disease has appeared in either for a great number of years.

Hydrography.—There are a number of excellent springs in the parish, one of which, situated about 200 yards from the town, affords an abundant supply of excellent water.* There are also some mineral springs; but they have never been correctly analyzed nor have they been resorted to for medicinal purposes. There

* The water was brought into the town, and two handsome receivers of cut stone (whence the water is drawn) were erected by Sir W. P. Hume Campbell, Bart. who has been on this as well as many other occasions a judicious and liberal benefactor to the town of Greenlaw.

is a loch in the moor north of the town, called the Huille moss or loch. It is of small extent, and of no great depth.

The Blackadder or Blackwater, which is joined by a small stream, called the Faungrass, about two miles above Greenlaw, is the only river that runs through the parish. Advantage is taken of it for the purpose of working the machinery of one fulling-mill, one lint-mill, and two common flour-mills, which have been erected on its banks. The water of the Blackadder (though its colour is black) is exceedingly pure. The engineers appointed to equalize the weights and measures of the county found it nearly correspond to the weight of distilled water.

Geology.—The Blackadder divides the parish into two parts, which differ remarkably from each other in their external character. The southern division is covered with a deep soil, which produces excellent crops of grain, and belongs to the new red sandstone formation. The northern division, on the contrary, consists of a wild moor, clothed with heaths, (*Calluna vulgaris*, *Erica Tetralix et cinerea*), moor-grasses, and the rein-deer lichen (*Cenomyce rangiferina*). Where the Blackadder leaves the parish a coarse white sandstone is exposed, and over it lies a dark claystone porphyry.

Along the course of the river, above the town, its banks, which are high and precipitous, exhibit a section, and afford inexhaustible quarries of red sandstone. This rock, which is rather soft, has a clay basis, and the fracture presents occasional portions of a white sandstone. The sandstone is covered by a thick coat of red clay, evidently derived from the disintegration of the substrata, and extends as far as the transition range of the Lammermoors, where it becomes gradually harder and coarse granular, and passes into greywacke. Hence the northern division of the parish belongs to the old red sandstone formation. Across the moor, in the upper part of the parish, runs an irregular gravelly ridge, called the Kaimes. The Kaimes extend upwards of two miles. The ridge is about 50 feet broad at the base, and between 30 and 40 feet in height. The ground on the north side is boggy; and on the south is an extensive moss, called Dugden Moss.

The Kaimes are evidently a natural production, and in endeavouring to account for their formation, it is to be observed that the stones scattered over the fields towards the Tweed consist principally of greywacke, which must have been detached and carried thither from the rocks of Lammermoor hills by the agency of a current of water setting in from the north towards the south;

and as the Kaimes are composed of similar materials reduced to a very moderate size, its formation is to be ascribed to the same cause. It is generally allowed that mosses are produced from decayed vegetable matter, such as wood, furze, fern, &c. Now, if it be admitted that Dugden Moss was at one time an extensive wood, the waters subsiding at the universal deluge, or some more partial inundation, and rushing with great impetuosity from the Dirrington Laws, which are about two miles north-west from the Kaimes, would carry with them all the wood and underwood to a considerable distance, till the collected materials would form a kind of dam or weir, through which the waters could not penetrate, and would force up against this dam or weir the gravel and sand which form the ridge, in the same manner as is frequently done by rivers in certain parts of their courses during great floods. The materials of which the ridge is composed, and its shape, which is somewhat like a horse-shoe with the hollow towards the hills, favour this explanation.

Dugden moss, which consists of about 500 acres, is in some places ten feet deep. The peats, when dug from the bottom and properly dried, are little inferior to coals. The moss rests upon a fine sand.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY. *

Land-owners.—Sir William Purves Hume Campbell, Bart. of Marchmont, is the chief land-owner, and possesses about two-thirds of the lands of the parish. The other heritors are David Anderson, Esq. of Rochester; Robert Nisbet, Esq. of Lambden; and the Managers of the Orphan Hospital, to whom the farm of Old Greenlaw belongs.

Parochial Register.—The date of the earliest entry in the parochial registers is 1669. The registers are not voluminous, nor are they quite entire. They are now kept as they ought to be, and according to a prescribed plan.

Antiquities.—There were to be seen a few years ago in this

* There is a tradition that, upon one occasion, when Sir Patrick Home of Polwarth (afterwards created Earl of Marchmont) was obliged to flee Redbraes house, now called Marchmont, he crossed the country a little above Greenlaw, where he met with a man of the name of Broomfield, the miller of Greenlaw mill, who was repairing a slap in the mill caul. Sir Patrick addressing him by the occupation in which he was engaged, said, Slap, have you any money? upon which Broomfield supplied him with what was considered necessary for his present exigency. Sir Patrick was obliged about this time to go over to Holland, and when he came back with King William, did not forget his former benefactor. It is not known what return he made him, but the family were settled in a free house so long as they lived, and always retained the name of Slap. The last of the family died about fourteen years ago, and frequent mention is made in the kirk-session records of Broomfield of Slap.

neighbourhood the ruins of two religious houses dependent upon the priory of Kelso, when Popery was established in this country, but there is not now a vestige of them remaining.

There are the remains of an encampment about two miles above the town, at the confluence of the Blackadder and Faungrass rivers, and on the very verge of their precipitous banks. The camp, which is called the Blackcastle Rings, is on the northern side of the river; and on the south side, exactly opposite, is the beginning of an entrenchment which runs about half a mile along the bank, and then turns off to the south in the direction of Hume Castle. That part of it which runs in a southerly direction is called the Black Dikes. In removing the turf for a quarry in the line of this trench, a number of gold and silver coins of the reign of Edward III. were found about two years ago. A piece of a silver chain was also found at the old camp.

Several silver coins were found this summer in clearing away the old buildings connected with the Castle Inn, but these coins, as well as the others above-mentioned, were seized by the work-people,—except a few, which were given to Sir William Purves Hume Campbell, Bart.

There are several barrows or cairns in the north-west part of the parish, one of which was removed a few years ago by some people who were employed in building dikes; below it, was found a human skeleton, which was so placed as to lead to the belief that the body had been cut through the middle, and the one-half placed over or above the other.*

Modern Buildings.—Besides the New Jail, to be afterwards noticed, there is an elegant County Hall, which has just been finished. The building is of Grecian architecture, and of very chaste design. It contains a large hall 60 feet long by 40 feet wide, the ceiling is 28 feet in height. The hall is adorned with two fluted columns with Corinthian capitals at each end. There are also a number of other apartments in the building for the accommodation of the sheriff and the gentlemen who attend the county meetings. There is in front a beautiful vestibule surmounted by a dome, in which

* About a mile north from the town, an old wall or earthen mound, with a ditch on one side, known by the name of Herriot's Dike, runs across the parish. It could at one time have been traced fourteen miles eastward, and tradition says it proceeded in the same direction as far as Berwick. It is supposed to have extended westward to a place in the parish of Legerwood called *Boon*; a word in the Celtic language signifying boundary or termination. It is not known by whom or at what time this wall was built, nor for what purpose it was intended.

there is a fire-proof room for holding the records of the county. *

There is now in progress a new Inn, intended to supply the place of the Castle Inn,—which, when finished, will be found to be one of the best and most commodious upon the road between London and Edinburgh.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755 the population was	-	895
1785,	-	1210
1811,	-	1270
1821,	-	1349
1831,	-	1442

It may be proper to add, that in 1821, the population of the town of Greenlaw was 765, that of the country parish 584: in 1831, the town population was 895, that of the country parish 547.†

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	302
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	84
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	87
of other families,	-	-	-	131

The average number of illegitimate births yearly, during the last three years, has been four.

It appears from the foregoing statements that the population has been and still is upon the increase. This may be accounted for in part by the improvements which have been made in the town, by the encouragement which has been afforded to labourers, by the improved state of agriculture, and the increasing comforts of the people.

Almost the whole of the town of Greenlaw is feued. The feuars (80 in number) are a respectable class of people. There are several instances of longevity in the parish. A man died lately upwards of ninety, and five or six of the villagers are between eighty and ninety.

Character and Manners of the People.—The inhabitants of this parish are in general sober and industrious. There are some, indeed, as there are in every community, of a different character, but they are few in number. Those who are frugal and industrious enjoy in a reasonable degree the comforts and advantages of society, and are contented with their situation and circumstances.

* This noble edifice was built at the sole expense of Sir W. P. H. Campbell, Bart. of Marchmont, and presented by him to the county. The gentlemen of the county have requested Sir William to sit to one of the most eminent artists for his bust, to be put up in the large hall in token of their respect and gratitude.

† Of the population in 1785, 223 were below eight years of age; of the 987 who were above eight years of age, 832 belonged to the Established church, 62 were Burghers, 82 Antiburghers, 7 Cameronians, and 4 of the Relief persuasion.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

Number of acres either cultivated or occasionally in tillage.	-	6276
never cultivated,	-	3151
capable of being cultivated with a profit,	-	500
under wood,	-	435
in undivided common.	-	1000

The common above referred to is pastured during the whole year by the cows of the villagers. Every householder appears to have a right of pasturage, and the cattle are tended by a common herd. They are brought home every night, and sent out on the morning. The right of pasturage is of considerable value, and enables the greater number of the householders to keep a cow. The expense of herding to each individual amounts only to a few shillings yearly.

Rent of Land.—The valued rent of the parish is L. 6836, 3s. 11½d. Scots. The rent of land varies according to its quality and situation. Near the town of Greenlaw, where it is let in small portions, the rent is from L. 1, 10s. to L. 3 an acre; enclosed arable farms let at from L. 1 to L. 2 an acre; unenclosed farms, which are partly in tillage and partly stocked with sheep, are not let by the acre but in the lump. About fifty years ago, the real rent of the parish did not exceed the third part of what it is at present.

The great rise of rent is owing not so much to any considerable rise in the price of grain as in the price of sheep and cattle, and the vast improvements which have been made in agriculture, by which more grain is raised than formerly.

Rate of Wages.—The price of labour has greatly increased since the late improvements were introduced into Berwickshire. Farmers' men-servants, who have their victuals in their masters' houses, receive from L. 8 to L. 12 a-year; the women from L. 7 to L. 8. But most of the men-servants employed in husbandry are married, and eat in their own houses. They receive for meat and wages twelve or thirteen bolls of grain, L. 4 in money, food for a cow during the whole year, with some other allowances, which may amount in all to L. 25 yearly.

Men day-labourers, when they furnish their own victuals, which they generally do, receive 1s. 6d. or 1s. 8d. a-day, except in mowing time and in harvest, when they get 2s. or 2s. 6d. per day, with their victuals; women receive for working at hay and weeding turnips 1s. a-day, without victuals. The day's wage of a mason in summer is from 2s. 4d. to 3s., of a carpenter the same. Work, however,

of all kinds is often done by the piece. A tailor receives 1s. 6d. a-day, without victuals.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

4800 bolls of corn, at 19s. per boll,	.	L. 4560	0	0
Potatoes and turnips,	,	3600	0	0
Hay, meadow and cultivated,	.	3000	0	0
Pasture,	.	2000	0	0
<hr/>				
		L. 13,160	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns.—The town of Greenlaw is a burgh of barony, the superior of which is the proprietor of the estate of Marchmont. It was created the head burgh of the county in the year 1669, and the public meetings of the freeholders are regularly held there. It is long since any weekly market was held in the town of Greenlaw. Regular markets for the hiring of single servants, and the sale of cattle and sheep, have been lately established; and on the first Thursday of May 1834 (being the first of the late established markets) a good deal of business was done.

Means of Communication.—There is a post-office in the town, and the communication by the curriele mail is uncommonly rapid. Letters from London reach us in about forty hours, and letters from Edinburgh in three hours and a-half.

There are about eighteen miles of roads in the parish, which are kept in a good state of repair by the conversion money. A daily coach to and from Dunse and Edinburgh passes through Greenlaw.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church, which is in the town of Greenlaw, is conveniently situated, being nearly in the centre of the parish. It was lately repaired and painted, and although it is too narrow considering the length of it, (which is the case with almost all old churches,) yet it is upon the whole a very comfortable place of worship.

Broomfield's Mortification.—In the south wall of the church (outside) is a monumental slab put up by the kirk-session in the year 1744, to the memory of Thomas Broomfield, a considerable benefactor of the parish, who died in the year 1667. He left a legacy of 2000 merks Scots to the kirk-session, a part of the interest of which is expended yearly, in terms of the deed of mortification, in the education of poor children, and the remainder in supplying the wants of the poor. It appears from an inscription upon the church bell, that it was also a present from him; and it is said

that he left funds for building a bridge over the Blackadder, at the west end of the town.

Manse, &c.—The manse was built in the year 1817, and an addition was made to it in the year 1829. It is a very commodious and comfortable dwelling. The stipend is 15 chalders, 14 bolls, 3 firlots, 3 pecks, and 3 lippies, one-half of which is barley, and the other half meal, with the exception of about seven bolls of oats. The money stipend amounts to L.31, 7s. 6d. Sterling. The value of the grain and meal is fixed annually by the county fiars price of grain and meal. The average amount of the stipend in money for the last seven years is L.271, 3s. 4d. The glebe consists of ten acres, and is worth about L.30 of yearly rent.

Divine service in the Established church is well attended by about 204 families. The average number of communicants may amount to about 370. The average amount of church collections may be stated at L. 14 yearly.

There are two dissenting or seceding chapels in Greenlaw, attended by about 98 families. The ministers are paid by their hearers.

A branch Bible society, in connection with the Berwickshire Bible Society, was established here several years ago, the annual contributions to which amount to about L. 15.

Education.—There is one parochial, and one private school. The branches of education taught in the parochial school are Latin, Greek, French, mathematics, &c. The schoolmaster has the maximum salary, and a very excellent house, to which is attached the legal quantity of ground for a garden. The average number of scholars may be stated at 130. The fees actually received by him amount to about L. 45 Sterling a-year.

Library.—The inhabitants of Greenlaw have long enjoyed the advantage of a subscription library, which contains a very good collection of books. There is also a small library in connection with one of the dissenting congregations, for the use of the children who attend the Sabbath school.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society was established in the year 1814, which has been of great advantage to the members. It was remodelled about two years ago, agreeably to the instructions contained in the table published by the Highland Society. The society consists of 150 members.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The heritors and kirk-session meet twice a-year, about the terms of Whitsunday and Martinmas, for

the purpose of making provision for the poor. At each of these meetings an assessment is made sufficient for maintaining those that are admitted upon the roll for the ensuing half-year. One-half of the assessment is paid by the heritors, and the other half by the tenants. The heritors are very liberal in providing for the poor; and yet the poor-rates are not very high,—not amounting to more than sixpence in the pound Sterling of real rent. They are kept thus moderate by a minute attention to the wants of the industrious poor, who are often prevented from becoming enrolled paupers, by a little judicious and timely aid in sickness. The average number of persons receiving parochial aid for the last five years is 28; and the average usual sum allotted to each individual is L. 5 Sterling. The average amount, for the last five years, of contributions for the poor, is L. 298 Sterling a-year; whereof L. 16 arise from church collections; L. 222 from legal assessments; and L. 60 from alms or legacies.

Fairs.—There are two fairs held annually in Greenlaw,—one on the 22d day of May, and the other on the last Thursday of October. They afford a good market for milch cows and lean cattle. A great deal of business is generally done at the summer fair.

Inns.—There are in Greenlaw 1 principal inn, 1 inferior one, and 7 alehouses.

Jail.—A new jail was erected in the year 1824. It is a very neat building, consisting of two day rooms for felons and one for debtors, with eighteen sleeping cells. There are three courts to which the prisoners have access during a part of the day. The building is surrounded by a very high wall, upon the top of which is a chevaux de frise, which renders it quite secure. There is a plentiful supply of water within the jail, and the whole establishment is kept in a state of perfect order and cleanliness. The average number of prisoners may be stated at 8,—they are chiefly felons.

Fuel.—The chief article of fuel is coals, which are brought from Northumberland,—a distance of eighteen or twenty miles. They are sold by weight, at from 6d. to 8d. per hundred weight. A few turf and peats are also used, but the expense and trouble of winning them is so great in proportion to their value, that the use of them is nearly given up. *

* Sir William P. H. Campbell, Bart. built a depot for coal, and gave L. 50 to fill it. The poor, who formerly paid very dear for their coals, by buying them in small

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It is impossible to view the high lands in the northern division of the parish, which extend to thousands of acres, without regretting that they should have continued so long the almost exclusive habitation of the moorfowl and the lapwing. It is true that the quality of the soil,—its altitude,—and its distance from lime and markets,—preclude the idea of its amelioration by tillage, and by the present improved system of agriculture; but were these bleak and barren moors judiciously enclosed, drained and planted, they would assume a new and improved aspect; in place of the heath and the rein-deer lichen, we should have the fir and the oak, and what is now a sterile waste, would soon become a leafy forest. The proprietor would thus sow the seed of an ample and certain harvest, for it is a well known fact that nothing tends more to enrich and to fertilize than thriving and extended plantations. The high would then rival the low lands in beauty and productiveness, and every spot, even the most sterile, would ultimately become as beautiful and fertile as it is possible for skill and industry to make it.

quantities, are now supplied from the depot at a moderate price. Sir William made the inhabitants a present of a weighing-machine, which has been of essential service to them. Coals, which were formerly sold by the cart-load, are now sold by the weight.

March 1834.

PARISH OF ECCLES.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. JAMES THOMSON, MINISTER.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—THE name Eccles occurs in each of the three kingdoms. It was a surname and baronial title of great antiquity in Dumfries-shire, and was carried in the beginning of the seventeenth century, from that county to Ireland, by a cadet of the Eccles family. Eccles in Berwickshire seems to have derived its name from the number of churches or chapels at one time situated in the parish; for we have evidence that, besides the parish church, there was formerly a chapel at Leitholm, and another at Birgham.† The term is plainly derived from the Greek word signifying a church.

It appears from the “registrate of the valuation of teinds,” made in 1634, that the parish was anciently divided into four quarters. 1. Magealens or southern quarter, comprehending “Lochton, Newtoun, Templand, Fairnyrigg and Birgim.” 2. St John’s or northern quarter, including “Mersingtoun, Overplewland, Litlethank, Herdrig, Burnhouses.” 3. Ladies or eastern quarter, containing “Lawrig, Buthrig, Belchester, Newbigging, Antonshill, Peill, Stainerigg, Litem.” 4. St Cuthbert’s or western quarter, consisting of “Kennetsydhead, Hassingtoun, Nethermaines, Whythouse, Hardaikers, Stainfeeld, and Dedriges.”

The greatest length of the parish from north-east to south west is $6\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and the greatest breadth from north-west to south-east $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and it contains 17.413 square miles, according to Mr Blackadder.

The river Tweed bounds the parish on the south. The whole of the parish, with the exception of some slightly elevated parallel

* This account has been drawn up by Robert D. Thomson, M. D.

† The churchyard at Birgham still exists. The chapel of Leitholm stood at the west end of the present village. The site of it is marked by an old ash tree known by the name of the *chapel tree*, which grows on the summit of the *chapel know*. The adjoining ground was used as a place of burial, and is now cultivated. Bones and coffins have been occasionally dug up.

ridges, called Cotchet ridge, Brae Dunstan, and Bartlehill, consists of a plain beautifully fenced, cultivated, and wooded.

Meteorology.—The heat of springs in the parish is 48° , which may be considered the mean annual temperature of the atmosphere. The state of the weather from an average of five years is as follows: 120 rainy days, 12 snowy days, 39 frosty days, and 234 fair days, making the proportion of rainy to fair days as 1 to 2 nearly. The mean height of the barometer for two years was 29.390 inches, which gives $364\frac{1}{2}$ feet for Eccles above the level of the sea.

Diseases.—The inference drawn here from observation is, that disease does not increase in proportion to the gross amount of the rain which falls, but according to the length of its duration in the atmosphere, or, in other words, to the diminution of the atmospheric pressure. Hence the year 1830 (in which there were long tracks of wet weather) was accompanied with many acute diseases. Scarlet fever raged with great virulence in the village of Eccles, and in Leitholm scarcely a family escaped the small-pox, though none died* but one child who had not been vaccinated. Measles also were very frequent.

Before the general introduction of draining, intermittents were very common, but during the last thirty years they were never heard of, until about three years ago, when several well marked cases of ague occurred in the village of Eccles. Inflammations, as must happen wherever persons are exposed to sudden alternations of heat and cold, are frequent, especially during autumn. As far as the writer of this article has been able to learn, a case of calculus has never occurred in the parish.

Notwithstanding these incidental complaints, the inhabitants may be said to be very healthy. Many attain a very great old age, and there are instances of persons reaching nearly the age of a hundred.

Hydrography.—The average depth of the wells in the parish is fifteen feet, and the water obtained at this level is extremely clear and palatable, which may in some measure be ascribed to the great quantity of sulphate of lime which it holds in solution, and which is partly separated when the water is evaporated and allowed to cool.

The sp. gr. of the well water at Eccles manse is 1.000792 and

* The propagation of this disease is in a great measure to be ascribed to the inefficient manner in which vaccination is performed; the principal operators being midwives and other ignorant people, who cannot be supposed capable of distinguishing between a genuine and spurious vesicle.

it contains in the imperial gallon, sulphate of lime, 57.750; common salt, 29.752; = 87.503.

On the borders of the parish, at the Leet, there is a chalybeate well which was furnished with a stone cover in 1780. The supply of water is pretty copious. Its sp. gr. is 1.00237, and in summer the temperature is 48°. The solid contents are sulphate of lime, common salt, and a minute portion of iron held in solution by carbonic acid. At the east of Birgham Haugh there are springs originating in the calcareous sandstone, which are impregnated with bicarbonate of lime, and when they drop upon plants, leave a deposit by which elegant masses are formed.

The river Tweed forms part of the south boundary of the parish, and separates it from Northumberland. Its breadth on the west side of the haugh by measurement is 114 yards, and its average depth from $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 feet in summer.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The best section of the rocks of the parish is seen at the Tweed, for the banks of that river rise in the form of elevated cliffs, and reach a height of 50 feet in some places above its level. They consist of a dark slaty marly sandstone, which contains 25 per cent. of carbonate of lime and a white compact sandstone dipping at a slight angle to the south-west. At Lochton, thin beds of red massy gypsum with crystals imbedded, (termed *alabuss* by the common people,) containing $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of peroxide of iron and white fibrous gypsum, occur.

Proceeding along the course of the river, the northern bank continues high and precipitous for about a quarter of a-mile, when its height gradually diminishes, and at Birgham Haugh exceeds the level of the water only by a few feet. Here the bed of the Tweed consists of magnesian limestone, containing red hornstone and crystals of calcareous spar. The south bank is formed of alternations of this rock and claystone porphyry, and these extend for some miles up the river. The sandstone of Eccles quarry, which is three miles to the north of the Tweed, reposes on a similar rock. The analysis of tolerably pure specimens from Haddenrig gives nearly: Carbonate of lime, 6.25; carbonate of magnesia, 5.25 = 11.5; or an atom of each, with some impurities; a little silica, alumina, and iron. A few shells have been observed in this rock. At the east end of the haugh, the sandstone is covered by amygdaloid, containing green steatite and calcareous spar. The upper portion resembles greenstone, and the cavities contain

quartz nodules. The inferior part of the rock has a wacke basis approaching to clay, and stilbite occurs sparingly in it.

In the sandstone which is exposed near Kennetside head, the silicious particles predominate to such an extent as to constitute almost a quartz rock. The same marly sandstone which is seen at the Tweed appears on the banks of the small river Leet, and contains thin beds of gypsum.

From these facts it appears that the whole of the parish is situated in the new red sandstone formation. A bluish marl containing 30 per cent. of carbonate of lime occurs at Harlaw and Overmains, which was used as a manure, but it seems now to be nearly exhausted. There is considerable variety of soil in the parish, that on the banks of the Tweed being light, while to the south-east there is some moor land; in the middle and northern parts, clay and loam predominate.

Zoology.—The banks of the Tweed and the plantations at Mayfield, harbour a number of foxes, weasels, and rabbits. The otter frequents Ferneyrig bog.

Besides about eighty common birds, the parish is occasionally visited by some rarer species. Of these may be mentioned the *Columba turtur* (turtle dove); *Aquila albicilla* (sea eagle); *Turdus vescovorus* (missel-thrush,) which was very uncommon till within the last three years; *Corythus enucleator* (hawkfinch); *Alcedo ispida* (king's fisher); *Ardea nycticorax* (night heron or bull of the bog); *Mergus merganser* (goosander); *Lanius excubitor*, Linn. (greater butcher bird.)

On the Tweed, the salmon fishery, the property of the Earl of Home, had very much declined, but during the last two years it has in some measure revived. Pike occurs in the Leet, Ferneyrig and Harlaw bogs.

Botany.—Notwithstanding the high state of cultivation of the parish, above 360 Phenogamous or flowering plants grow within its bounds. They may all be classed under three soils, but the rarer plants alone deserve notice; 1. marshy; 2. light and moor; and 3. clay soils.

1. Fernyrig marsh furnishes a considerable variety of the first, viz. *Hippuris vulgaris*, *Utricularia vulgaris*, *Potamogeton heterophyllus natans* var. *Samolus valerandi*, *Cœnanthe phellandrium*, *Parnassia palustris*, *Spergula nodosa*, *Ranunculus lingua*, which occur on the borders of the marsh, while the water is overgrown with the *Arundo phragmites*, the stems of which are used for thatching

houses, and by weavers, and the *Scirpus lacustris*, and *Typha latifolia*. In the bog south of Hardacres grow the *Galium boreale*, *Valeriana deltoides*, and *Listera ovata*. *Pyrola minor* in Bankhead wood. *Epilobium angustifolium*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, Tweedside at Birgham. *Potamogeton perfoliatus*, *pectinatus*, *pusillus* and *lucens*, narrow-leaved var. in the Tweed, *Nuphar lutea*, pond at Kames; *Iris foetidissima*, pond at Anton's Hill.

2. On the banks of the Tweed are the *Dianthus deltoides*, *Cerastium arvense*, the three British *Malvae*; *Euphorbia esula*, Birgham Haugh; *Centunculus minimus*, Mayfield moor.

3. In the glebe and likewise on the banks of the Tweed, and in the fields about Eccles, grows a species of *Tragopogon*, which has been hitherto confounded with the *T. pratensis*. It was first added to the British Flora during the present year (1831) by the writer of these pages, who has been able to identify it as the *T. major*. The *Senecio tenuifolius* grows near Sunnyside and Grizzle-rig. *Anchusa sempervirens* at Belville and Hassington. *Solanum dulcamara* near Orangelane; *Rubus cæsius*, Tweedside.

About 40 species of fleshy fungi have been collected in the parish, of which 30 are *Agarici*. Of the latter may be mentioned the *A. muscarius* and *A. Listeri*. The greater proportion occur at Bankhead wood. *Alectoria jubata* on trees at the same place.

There are numerous thriving plantations scattered over the parish, consisting of every variety of tree, but few of a century's standing. The most aged are some elms and ashes at Leitholm Peel, and Eccles-House.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—Birgham, a village on the Tweed, formerly called Brigham, (from a bridge which it is supposed united the two kingdoms at this point) is celebrated as having been the place where several important affairs were transacted. In 1188, when the distresses of the Holy Land had induced Henry II. of England and Philip of France to agree to tax their dominions in order to carry on a new crusade, Henry having determined in a great Council in his own kingdom, that a tenth of all the moveables and revenues of the clergy and laity should be exacted for that purpose, sent Hugh, Bishop of Durham, with some other courtiers, to collect a similar tax in Scotland. On the arrival of the Bishop and his attendants, William the Lion of Scotland met with him at Birgham, in an assembly of his bishops, earls, barons, and many inferior vassals. The meeting terminated by William informing

the English Ambassador, that he could not prevail on his clergy and laity to give the *Saladin tenth demanded*.*

On the 17th March 1290, after a dispensation had been obtained from Pope Nicholas IV. for the marriage of Prince Edward, son of Edward I. with Margaret of Scotland, a numerous meeting of the community of Scotland assembled at Birgham, and expressed their approbation of the intended match, upon condition of Edward's giving them security for certain matters relating to the state of their country. This assembly also wrote a letter to the King of Norway, informing him of their consent, and requesting him to send his daughter as speedily as possible to England. Another meeting, furnished with greater powers, was held at the same place about the middle of July following, at which were present the Bishop of Durham and five others, who solemnly assented, in their master's name, to every important regulation made by the Scots for securing the independence of their kingdom. The death of the young queen soon after in one of the Orkneys, as is well known, defeated the intended marriage. †

Purves-Hall, the seat of John Purves of that ilk, is situated in the parish. This family was founded early in the seventeenth century.

Eminent Men.—Eccles was the native parish of Henry Home, Lord Kames. He was born at Kames in 1696, and there spent his youth. It was in this quiet retreat that he entertained Dr Benjamin Franklin and his son in 1759; that he wrote many of his philosophical works; and studied those agricultural processes which he has so ably described in his “Gentleman Farmer.”

Land-owners.—The principal land-owners at present connected with the parish are, the Marquis of Tweeddale; the Earl of Home; Sir W. Purves Hume Campbell; and Sir John Marjoribanks.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of the parochial registers is 1698. The present incumbent introduced a great improvement in the mode of registration. Every two opposite pages are divided into ten columns, and each column has a distinct title, stating the names of the parents, their residence, and profession, the names of the children, dates of birth and baptism, whether public or private, and the names of the witnesses. Two copies

* Ben Petrol. p. 514.—Ridpath's Border History, p. 104.

† Rymer, Tom. ii. p. 448.—Ridpath's Border Hist. p. 166.

are preserved, one by the minister, and the other by the session-clerk.

Antiquities.—At Crosshall, about a mile to the north of the village of Eccles, there is a cross or monument of white sandstone, without any inscription. It consists of a column, which passing through a base or pedestal, penetrates into the earth. The late Sir John Paterson wished to remove it to near the mansion-house of Eccles, and for that purpose employed workmen, who dug several feet into the earth without being able to reach the foundation of the column. An antiquarian would regret that this monument has never been protected by any enclosure. The column above the base measures 10 feet high, 1 foot 6 inches broad on the west and east sides at the bottom, and 1 foot on the north and south. The pedestal, which is a large solid block of sandstone, is 2 feet 6 inches high, and 3 feet square on its upper surface, and is raised 1 foot 6 inches above the ground, so that the whole elevation of the cross is 14 feet. The north face of the column presents the sculpture of a cross Calvary, with the upper part surrounded by a kind of shield. The west side gradually becomes narrower upwards, and has at the summit a circular expansion 1 foot 6 inches in diameter, with a cross, and below an escutcheon, with a cheveron in the dexter and sinister chiefs,* and precise middle base respectively, and a St John's cross. The south has an escutcheon similar to that on the west side, and beneath an ancient double-handed sword: the east a circular expansion at top, with a cross, and below, the naked figure of a man and a greyhound. Some have supposed that this monument was raised to the memory of one of the Percies of Northumberland. The conjecture of Mr Robertson is more probable, that it was erected after the second crusade, which happened in 1114, (the crosses referring, perhaps, to the Holy War,) in honour of the father of Sir John de Soules, Lieutenant or Viceroy to John Baliol. The local tradition says, that a governor of Hume Castle was killed on the spot in a skirmish. The place where it stands was, till lately, called Deadriggs, and is reported by tradition to have been so named from a battle which was fought there, in which the slaughter was so great, that the small stream of Lip-rick, a little to the north, *ran with blood for twenty-four hours*.

On the hill of Hardacres, about a mile to the north-west of the

* Trans. Soc. of Antiq. Scotland, 4to, 1792, Vol. i. p. 269, where there are a description and drawings of the monument by Roger Robertson, Esq. of Ladykirk. The present writer's measurements differ slightly from his, and if Mr Robertson's are correct, the monument must have sunk 10 inches.

cross, there are traces of entrenchments, and some cannon balls * have been found between it and Hume Castle, which stands two miles north-west. The latter are, perhaps, remnants of Colonel Fenwick's attack upon Hume Castle in 1650.†

Eccles was anciently the seat of the Bernardine or Cistercian nuns. At what period the first foundation of this nunnery was laid, no account can be derived from history. According to Hoveden and the Melrose Chronicle, it was founded a second time in 1154, or, according to Cowpar, in 1155, by Cospatrick, Earl of March, father to Earl Waldave, and was consecrated to the Virgin Mary. The abbreviation of the *Scoto-Chronicon*, annexed to Fordun, says that this nunnery was established by the Countess of March. In 1296, during the interregnum in Scotland, Ada de Frazer, prioress of Eccles, obtained a letter of restitution, in consequence of the fealty sworn to Edward I. by the Scots. In 1333, Edward III., after taking Berwick, received the fealty of the convent of Eccles, and of the other nunneries in the adjacent country. The convent of Eccles was visited 13th November 1523 by the Duke of Albany, when retreating from Wark Castle. He stayed till midnight, and then marched to Lauder.

In 1545 the abbey and town of Eccles, together with the tower of Mersington, were destroyed by the Earl of Hertford, who, having been entrusted with the command of the troops in the north of England, made an inroad into Merse and Tiviotdale, and ravaged and burned the whole country in his way, without receiving any check from the Scots.‡

There is in the public records, Lib. xxi. No. 537, a charter, whereby Marieta Hamilton, prioress of Eccles, disposes to Sir Alexander Hamilton of Innerwick, the village and lands of Eccles in 1569, which charter was confirmed by Queen Mary at Edinburgh the 11th of May, the same year. The place was formed into a temporal lordship in favour of George Hume, afterwards Earl of Dunbar.§

The ancient nunnery, from the investigations of the Rev. Mr Murray, (author of the former *Statistical Account*,) appears to have occupied a square of six acres. The only remains of it are a wall,

* One of these in the author's possession weighs 3 lb. 1 oz. Troy, measures 8 inches in circumference, and consists of cast iron.

† Kingsrig, Bartlehill, and Banghousewalls are places in the neighbourhood.

‡ Hollinshed's *Scot. Chron.* p. 338.—*Ridpath Bord. Hist.* p. 554.

§ Rymer, *Tom.* ii. p. 723.—*Spottiswood's Appendix to Hope's Minor Practics.*—*Ridpath's Border Hist.* p. 93, 201, 310, 518.

which forms part of the east gable of the mansion-house, and two vaulted cells contiguous to the churchyard.

On the west side of the ruin, there is a large arched gate or door-way 9 feet 8 inches high, and 6 feet 1 inch broad, and within this there is part of a ruined stair, and the door of the south cell, which is 6 feet 4 inches high, and 3 feet 1 inch broad. The cell itself is 22 feet 3 inches by 12 feet 6 inches, and 10 feet 9 inches high. The walls are 3 feet 9 inches in thickness. The north cell is similar, but less. In digging the adjacent burying-ground, the workmen are interrupted by the foundations of walls. Before the front door of Eccles House a stone coffin was dug up many years ago about 6 feet long, and covered above with flag stones, containing the figure of a human body. Nothing remained but some of the earthy matter of the bones, which, when weighed by Sir John Paterson, was found to amount to an ounce and a-half.*

On the farm of Hassington Mains there is a broad elevation which is raised several feet above the surrounding surface, and can be distinctly observed for some hundred yards. It is called the *Kames* by the people in the neighbourhood, who have a traditional opinion that it extends from sea to sea. A gravelly ridge, of which this seems to be the western termination, can be traced running through the parish by Loanknow and Ploughland. It was opened some years ago, and found to consist of large water-worn stones and sand, compactly thrown together, so as to form a kind of fortification, and at one place a heap of wood ashes was discovered. The adjoining farm on the south is called Kaimflat.

The production of this ridge, of which there is a similar example upon a larger scale in the neighbouring parish of Greenlaw, can be satisfactorily accounted for upon the supposition that an aqueous current had at some period existed, setting in from the north towards the south, as the stones found in it were greywacke, and therefore derived from the Lammermoor hills.

On the property of General Hunter, Sir Martin, of Antonshill, is Leitholm Peel, the remains of a stronghold, to which tradition says the borderers were accustomed to drive their cattle for protection during invasions.

“ The frightened flocks and herds are pent
Beneath the peel's rude battlement.”

The remnant consists of a wall 31 feet long, about 15 feet high, and 4 feet thick.

* The revenue of the priory at and previous to 1560 was L. 647, 13s. 8d.—See short account of Scottish money, &c. pamphlet, Edinburgh, 1817.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1750, according to Dr Webster, the population amounted to	1489	souls.
1793, Rev. Mr Murray,	-	1780
1801, by Government census,	-	1682
1811, do. do.	-	1820
1821, do. do.	-	1900
1831, do. do.	898 males, 997 females,	1885

During 1830–31, no less than 94 persons emigrated to America, which accounts for the decrease in the last, compared with the preceding census.

The average of the population to the square mile is 108.25.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	411
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	239
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	90
2. Number of males above 20 years of age,	-	441
of houses,	-	423
3. The average number of births for the last 7 years,	-	37
of burials,*	-	18½
of marriages,	-	14½
4. The number of persons in 1821 under 15 years of age,	-	709
do. upwards of 70,	-	55

Seven persons of independent fortune reside in the parish. There are 25 heritors, and of these 5 cultivate their own lands.

There are 1 insane and 4 fatuous persons in the parish.

Language, Customs, &c. of the People.—The language spoken by the common people corresponds with that of the greater part of the Lowlands. One peculiarity, however, in the pronunciation of the syllable *ch*, pertains to this parish, as well as to the rest of Berwickshire. Thus, cheap is pronounced *sheap*; church, *shurch*.

A curious custom connected with marriage is still kept up by the youths here. Once a-year, or oftener, according to circumstances, all the men who have been married within the last twelve-month are *creeled*. This consists in having a creel or basket suspended to the individual's shoulders, and, while he runs with all his speed from his own house to that of his next new-married neighbour, he is pursued by the unmarried men, who endeavour to fill his basket with stones. The wife, following armed with a knife, strives to relieve her husband of his burden, by cutting the rope which attaches the basket to his person.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—In no part of the county of Berwick has agriculture made greater progress than in the parish of Eccles; for the whole of it, consisting of 11,000 acres, is ara-

* The actual average of births is here under-rated, because very few dissenters enter their children's births in the register. The burials also given here are under the true number, because no accurate account is kept of the interments in Birgham churchyard.

ble, and, being all enclosed and studded with thriving plantations, it presents to the view a rich and elegant appearance.

The increase of the rental within the last forty years is a striking proof of the improvement of the land, but is not greater than was anticipated. Mr Murray states the amount of rent in 1793 to be L. 11,000, but adds, "it would not be surprising if in the course of a few years the rental of the parish should exceed L. 18,000 or L. 20,000." Accordingly, in 1822 it amounted to L. 20,000, the valued rent being only L. 15,604, 3s. 4d. Scots.

Rent of Land.—The average rent per acre is under L. 2. The size of farms varies from 50 and under to 1000 acres. The rents of course vary in proportion, the greatest being L. 1400.

Husbandry.—The general duration of leases is 19 and 21 years, but one or two farms are let for 15 years. Most of the larger tenants keep a greater or smaller number of sheep, principally of the Cheviot and Leicestershire breeds. The former, from their greater hardihood, are best suited for clay lands. The four shift husbandry has been long, and for some time successfully practised here. Excellent wheat, oats, and barley are produced. Turnips are raised by every farmer, both for sheep and cattle, and, although the light soil of the southern part of the parish is best adapted for their growth, yet in the clay and loam they attain a very fair size, and are healthy and well-flavoured. In all the stiff lands it has been remarked of late years that the broad-leaved clover (*Trifolium pratense*) sown in spring rarely stands the ensuing winter. Various reasons have been assigned for this, but the fact indicates the propriety of making some change in the present rotation, and the employment of gypsum as a manure. *

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—The parish is very well supplied with respect to markets, for, although there are none within its bounds, yet Kelso and Coldstream are only about 6 miles, and Berwick 18 from the centre of the parish. There are four villages in the parish, and of these Leitholm is the largest, having a population of 343 souls, and a bye-post to Coldstream.

Means of Communication.—The London road from Edinburgh

* For an account of the agriculture of Berwickshire, relating especially to the parish of Eccles, vide "Sketch of the present state of Agriculture in Berwickshire."—Annals of Philosophy, Vol. i. 260,—Vol. ii. 185.

About the middle of last century Mr Hume of Eccles and Lord Kames were very active promoters of improvement in agriculture.

by Greenlaw traverses the parish from north to south, (by which the mail passes daily) and that from Edinburgh to London by Kelso, with the road from Kelso to Berwick crosses it from west to east. A London coach passes by the south road, and there are two coaches from Berwick to Kelso. All these turnpikes are kept in excellent order, and, notwithstanding its extent, there is not a toll in the parish.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated about a mile from the western side of the parish, and is therefore not so conveniently placed as it might be. It is a large spacious building, furnished with a handsome spire, and was built after the model of the St Cuthbert's Chapel of Ease, Edinburgh. Its length is 78 feet 6 inches, and its breadth 34 feet. It was erected in 1774, and conveniently holds 1000 people. The expense was 48 months' cess, or L. 999, 15s. 7d. All the sittings are private property. The stipend is 16 chalders. The manse and glebe formerly lay to the south of the mansion-house of Eccles, but their situation was changed at the expense of Sir John Paterson. The present manse is placed about a quarter of a mile to the east of the church, and was built in 1813. The glebe, formerly called Birgham Park, lies in front of the manse, amounts to 21 acres, and consists of good land. Since the Revolution there have been five clergymen whose names and dates of ordination or admission are as follows:—John Lauder, 1691; Matthew Sandilands Dysert, 1731; Adam Murray, 1774; James Baird, 1797; James Thomson, 1805.

The average number of communicants for five years preceding 1829 was 549, but in 1831, in consequence of the emigration, the number was only 505. As to the number of Dissenters in the parish, no exact statement can be given, as they vary every year from the annual emigration and immigration of hinds.

Education.—There are five schools in the parish, but only one of these is a parish school, the remainder being entirely supported by school fees. The parochial schoolmaster teaches Greek, Latin, English, writing, and mathematics, and has two chalders of salary. Mr Waddel, the present schoolmaster, has the merit of having established, at his own expense, a library for the use of his pupils, and he finds that they are much benefited by private reading. He has the maximum salary.

Charitable Institutions.—An association termed the “Eccles Friendly Society,” was established on the 31st March 1808, for the purpose of relieving its distressed, infirm, and indigent mem-

bers. The fund amounted in 1826 to L. 267, 8s. 9½d. At present it is L. 329, 10s. 5½d. and the number of members 79.

Poor.—The poor are supported by assessment, and those who may want occasional aid are relieved by the money collected in church on Sunday. Assessment produces here, as wherever it has been introduced, a carelessness about providing for old age, but it would be improper not to mention that the highest spirit of independence is exhibited by many as long as nature will permit. The average number upon the poors' roll for the last year is 50½, and the different rates by which the poor are paid quarterly vary from L. 2, 5s. 6d. to 10s. The amount of assessment from Martinmas 1830 to 1831 is L. 270, 9s. 1d., and the number of months' cess 13.

The system of poor rates commenced here in 1763; the number of months' cess then charged was 2½, and the sum L. 44, 12s. 4d. The highest amount of assessment was in 1819, when it was L. 416, and the number of months' cess 20. The greatest average of paupers on the roll was 62 in 1820, and the smallest 16 in 1766.

Inns.—There are six inns and alehouses in the parish. Such a proportion for the population is far too high, and hence they are a great evil to the lower orders.

Fuel.—Coal and lime are brought from North Durham; and the distance (15 miles) at which the collieries are situated constitutes one of the greatest disadvantages under which the parish labours.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The most striking differences between the present state of the parish and its condition when the last Statistical Account was drawn up, a period of 38 years, are in the following particulars: The rental has nearly doubled. The number of tenants in 1793 was 56, now it is 36. Previous to 1793 the population was advancing at the rate of 727 in a century, or about 7¼ per annum. Now it is at 240 per century, or about 2½ per annum. The poor have increased 13¼; and the poor rates have trebled. The registered births, deaths, and marriages have all diminished by the respective numbers, 49, 3½, 1⅔.

Revised May 1834.

PARISH OF WESTRUTHER.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. ROBERT JAMIESON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE original name of this parish was Wolfstruther. In the old glossaries the word *Struther* is defined to be a naked and swampy place, so that from the etymology the parish appears to have anciently been an extensive marsh, occupied by wild animals, especially wolves.* As these animals disappeared, the first part of the original name fell gradually into disuse, and gave place to the prefix West, meant to distinguish this from another morass which lay to the eastward, and was called Easter Anstruther, now Dogden Moss.

It was only of a comparatively modern date that Westruther became a separate and independent parish. It belonged anciently to the widely extended parish of Home. On a new parochial division of this district at the Reformation it became a part of the parish of Gordon, and, down to the year 1647, the inhabitants of this place had no nearer place of worship than the church of Gordon. That church, however, being about eight miles distant from the most northerly part of Westruther, and there being no communication but through almost impassable moors, a disjunction was effected, and the people supplied with religious ordinances at Bassendean, which was selected from the double reason of there being an old Catholic chapel there, which, though it had been discontinued since the Reformation, was still in good condition,—and of its being the site of a populous and thriving village. This, however, was only a temporary arrangement. For in two years after, the inhabitants of Wedderlie, Thornydyke, and Spottiswoode, at each of which places there were hamlets of considerable extent,

* This description is confirmed by immemorial tradition, and was adopted by the author of an old manuscript account of Berwickshire, who, in his notice of Westruther, describes it “as a place which of old had great woods, with wild beasts, from which the dwellings and hills were designed, as Wolfstruther, Roecleugh, Hindside, Hartlaw, and Harclaw.”

being still dissatisfied with the distance, the heritors agreed to make choice of a more central situation for a church, and, accordingly, the minister was removed from Bassendean to Westruther in 1649.

The parish is of an irregular form, though it inclines to circular. It is about 7 miles in length from north to south, and 5 at its greatest breadth from west to east. It is bounded on the north by Cranshaws; on the south by Legerwood and Gordon; on the west by Lauder; and on the east by Longformacus and Greenlaw. The north is considerably elevated above the rest of the parish, the highest point being 1260 feet above the level of the sea.

Topographical Appearances.—The whole of the northern quarter presents the appearance of a continuous ridge of hills, whose bleak and barren summits are destitute of every attraction, save that of affording a wide prospect of the rich and beautiful scenery of Merse and Tiviotdale. Descending from this northern boundary, it appears an extended valley, unbroken by the smallest eminence, and intersected by varied spots of heath, pasture, and arable land; in the centre it rises throughout the whole extent from west to east to a considerable elevation, and again inclines to a gentle slope at the southern extremity of Bassendean. There is no point within the parish which commands an entire view of the whole, or from which any thing more than a small detached portion can be seen at once. But from the neighbouring heights of Lauder, or after passing the moor of Greenlaw on the east, it appears to great advantage, with its stripes of waving plantation stretching in every direction, and comes on the traveller with an agreeable surprise to find so rich and cultivated a spot, where he might little expect it, skirting the cold and heath-clad brow of the Lammermoors.

Meteorology.—The temperature of Westruther was considerably colder than that of the lower parts of the county. But this has been remedied in a great degree by the growth of wood, and especially by the extensive drains that have been cut in various parts of the parish. The rains which the powerful attraction of the Lammermoors brought down in the earlier part of the season, and the frosts which were so common and so severe in autumn, made the people in the low boggy parts of the parish, about thirty years ago, lay their account with having their crop damaged every four or five years. So much, however, has now been done by planting and draining to subdue the rigours of a capricious and ungenial climate, that

the farmers can calculate on the regular return of favourable weather with nearly as much certainty here as in any other part of Berwickshire. The boggy character of the soil makes dry weather the most favourable for the production of grain, which, indeed, was never known to fail from drought but in 1826. The crop is often excellent and luxuriant here, when a long tract of dry and scorching weather has been attended with injurious effects in more favoured regions. A wet season is what most of all awakens the fears of the farmers of Westruther; and where it does not prove ruinous to their hopes, leads invariably to a late harvest.

Of the winds to which the parish is exposed, the west wind is the most prevalent, and productive of greatest injury to trees and to grain, while the north-east is generally the coldest, and the never-failing harbinger of a storm. Formerly, in the most marshy places, rheumatism and a good deal of croup prevailed. But these have so entirely disappeared with the improving condition of the parish, that there cannot now be said to be any distempers indigenous to the district; and such is the known salubrity of the climate, that for a long time a boarding-school of considerable celebrity was kept in the parish, which was attended by young men belonging to families of the first respectability in the country.

Hydrography.—The springs are numerous, and, except during very violent heats, are perennial; so that a scarcity of good potable water is never known in the parish. All of these springs on the north side of the parish issue from greywacke, and all on the south from sandstone (freestone.) That from the former was lately analysed by an eminent chemist, who pronounced it to be almost pure, with the smallest portion of carbonate of lime. In Harelaw moor there is a spring of a chalybeate nature, which is perpetually boiling, and has never been known to freeze during the greatest intensity of winter. It is bottomed with flags, to which it has given a very yellow tinge, and is about nine feet long, and six broad, and from two to three feet in depth. It is reputed to be very efficacious for the removal of scurvy, and was much resorted to in former times, by patients who came from a distance to lodge on the spot for the benefit of drinking it. It is still as copious as formerly, but its virtues have fallen very much into oblivion, and it has been so long neglected, that it is nearly covered up by a crop of luxuriant rushes.

There are several rivulets, which roll a considerable volume of water, and all of which flow in a southerly direction; some westward, as tributaries to the Leader; others choosing an easterly course, con-

tribute to swell the Tweed. The only river is the Blackadder, one of the tributaries of the latter, which takes its rise at Wedderlie. Flowing in a south easterly direction, it separates Westruther from Greenlaw, and during its whole course through this parish, which including its windings, cannot exceed three miles, it is inconsiderable both in breadth and quantity of water. It increases in magnitude, however, as it descends along the skirt of Harelaw moor, where it meanders through a fine rich meadow, the sloping sides of which want only a little plantation to render it one of the most beautiful and romantic solitudes in the whole of Lammermoor.

Geology.—The parish abounds chiefly with greywacke, the beds of which are interspersed with perpendicular beds of imperfect slate. There is no covering over greywacke but the natural soil. A stone quarry occurs at Houndslow, from which excellent stones of a pink colour are procured for building, of which several houses in that village, and the external part of the new mansion at Spottiswoode, are composed. Over the whole of the stone in this southern district, which consists of sandstone (freestone,) there is a covering by a red dent. A red sandstone is found to the north-west of the village of Westruther, and a quarry at Flass, of a coarse grain. There is a little mica in this stone. About twenty-eight years ago, a slate quarry was wrought at Bruntiburn, in which, many roods of pavement for soles of drains were found, but this slate was found not to be of a durable quality. There is little or no marl, although shell marl was found in a pit at Whiteburn, to the depth of seven feet, and rock marl appears in a quarry which is now in the course of being wrought at Wedderlie, in a vein about two inches thick. Sand is found in great abundance in various parts of the parish.

Fossil organic remains have been discovered at different times, but neither in such number, nor such a state, as to enable us to give a satisfactory account of them. It may be mentioned, however, that the antlers of a deer were found near Whiteburn, and several horns have been dug out of the mosses, said to have been of much greater dimensions, than those of any living animal; some of them exceeding a foot in circumference. All these, however, soon crumbled into powder, after exposure to the action of the air. Eight or ten feet below the surface of the moss, in Jordanlaw, there is a bed of wood, consisting wholly of hard wood, out of which bed oaks have been dug of a very great size, measuring in one instance twelve feet in periphery.*

Soil.—The general quality of the soil is light, with a rocky and

* From the same moss was dug a small bronze urn, supposed to have been a Roman camp-kettle.

gravelly subsoil. Its general depth may average from six inches to a foot; but it varies greatly in character in different places; the highest farm in the parish, for instance, having a deep clayey soil, which at Redhall, especially, has borne good wheat,—the moorland being in general a black sandy soil,—the high parts about Spottiswoode dry and stony,—whereas a little farther to the west again it is wet. The land about Thornydyke and Bassendean is said to be the best and richest soil in the parish.

Zoology.—On this head it may be only noticed, that the Eden river, which rises a little to the south of Houndslow, is so celebrated both for the quality and size of its fish, as to attract amateurs in angling from a great distance. There is also, in deep stagnant pools near the source of this streamlet, a shell-fish called the diamond fish,—probably the horse-muscle.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is a short account of the ancient state of the parish drawn up by Mr Veitch, who was first minister of it, and who, says the editor, “wrote for me ane description of Berwickshire in the Merse,—twa sheet and a-halfe.” It is to be found in Sibbald’s *Repository of Manuscripts in the Advocates’ Library*. This, with the exception of some casual notices taken of it in modern topographical works, and of the papers which each proprietor may have relative to his respective domains, comprises all the known sources of information on the civil history of the parish. The greater part of the parish, at least on the eastern side, belonged anciently to the family of Gordon, who gave the right of pasturage to the monks of Kelso and Melrose, with whom they were ecclesiastically connected. At the beginning of the seventeenth century it seems to have been divided among a great number of heritors,—no less than twenty-two having voted themselves, or sent proxies to support their interest, at the appointment of a minister.

Land-owners.—At present there are only six land-owners,—John Spottiswoode, Esq. of Spottiswoode; Lord Blantyre in Wedderlie; Earl of Lauderdale in Harelaw; Colonel Home, Bassendean; Christie of Baberton; and Somerville, Evelaw.

Family of Spottiswoode.—Of these families, the Laird of Spottiswoode is the only large proprietor, and the only one who resides, though he too has hitherto been an absentee during one-half of the year. The family of that ilk have had a local habitation and a name in this district long before the commencement of authentic history, and several of its members have attained the highest honours in various departments both in church and state. In the

early days of Presbytery in Scotland, John Spottiswoode was superintendent of the Merse and Lothian, "which office," says an old historian, "he discharged with advantage to the church, and with honour both to himself and to posterity." The name of his son, the Archbishop, is so identified with the public history of the period in which he lived, that it would be superfluous to detail it. It may be sufficient to mention, that after having studied with great eclat under the celebrated Andrew Melville, he was made an Extraordinary Lord of Session; and having joined the ranks of Episcopacy, was successively raised to the Archbishoprick of Glasgow and St Andrews,—had the high honour of crowning King Charles I. at Holyroodhouse,—and was afterwards appointed Lord High Chancellor of the kingdom. The reverse of fortune which befel him in common with his order, from the national resistance to the introduction of the liturgy into Scotland, overwhelmed him with grief, and at last brought him to the grave. His remains were interred in Westminster Abbey.

Sir Robert Spottiswoode, son of the archbishop, was born in 1622. He rose to the dignity of a Privy-Counsellor and Lord of Session, and afterwards to that of President of that court. The prominent part which he acted in the cause of royalty made him obnoxious to the Presbyterians, in consequence of which he was specially excluded from the act of oblivion proposed to be passed in 1641; but, after a short imprisonment, he was ordered to be set at liberty, on finding caution "to conduct himself in a way that would tend to the peace and quietness of the kingdom." In 1643, he was made Secretary of State; and while he was in Scotland executing some commissions which that office required him personally to attend to, he was taken prisoner at Philiphaugh,—tried by Parliament at St Andrews,—and sentenced to be beheaded at the market cross. His character has been variously drawn by historians, according to the principles of the party they have espoused; but all allow that he had a great influence in the national councils of that stormy period.

John Spottiswoode, advocate, stands in the records of the University of Edinburgh as first professor of law in the earlier part of the last century. He was the author of several excellent works on jurisprudence,—particularly the well-known work on *Stiles of Writ*, which has gone through many editions, and, as the preface intimates, was written for the use of the students in Spottiswoode's college of law.

There was another member of this family who attained the rank

of General during the reign of George II., and having made himself conspicuous also in the political world, he was appointed governor of Virginia, where he died.

Family of Home of Bassendean.—The family of the Homes of Bassendean have also for centuries been connected with this parish, and borne always a most respectable rank in the county. The only member of this family, however, known to have been eminent in public life was George Home, who lived in the troublous period of the seventeenth century. Being a zealous Presbyterian, and having, in conjunction with the lairds of Polwarth, Torwoodlee, and others, used all his influence to oppose the arbitrary measures of the court, and preserve the integrity of Presbyterian worship, he was proscribed, and an order issued for his apprehension. He had just time to escape, when the officers arrived,—the place of his concealment being a vault contiguous to his own mansion at Bassendean. In that retreat his necessities were supplied by the tender and assiduous care of his wife; and he would probably have entirely eluded the vigilance of the King's myrmidons, had not the advancing pregnancy of his wife, exciting their suspicions that he was not far distant, forced him to consult for his safety in a remoter place. He succeeded in effecting his escape to Holland, then the liberal asylum of the Scottish refugees, and joining his former associates, concerted in that foreign land measures for the restoration of freedom at home. Bassendean was one of that little band of Christian patriots, consisting only of eleven, who, with the Earl of Argyle at their head, met at Amsterdam on 17th April 1685, "and resolved to declare and undertake a war against the Duke of York and his assisters, for restoring and settling the true religion, and the native rights and liberties of the three kingdoms." He shared in all the troubles of Argyle's expedition, and at length, after the Revolution, he was restored to Bassendean, where he lived to enjoy the fruits of that civil and religious liberty which he had done and suffered so much to establish. His remains are buried within the old chapel there.

James Bassantin, son of the Laird of Bassantin, flourished during the reign of James IV., and enjoyed a high reputation for his extensive acquirements in the physical sciences. To improve himself in his favourite pursuits he made the tour of Europe, to ascertain the state of science on the Continent. On a vacancy occurring in the mathematical chair of the university of Paris, he was elected professor; and his prelections, which were honoured with a numerous attendance of students from all parts of France

and the Continent, were continued till 1562, when he returned to Scotland, determined to spend the remainder of his life on his patrimonial estate at Bassendean. His works, written in Latin, contain a laborious collection of the theories and observations of preceding astronomers, and are monuments of his own extensive acquirements; and, though believing in the mysteries of judicial astrology, he certainly deserves to be ranked among the foremost of those eminent men who ushered in the dawn of science and literature in Europe.

John Veitch.—The name of Veitch, first Presbyterian minister and an heritor in Westruther, is intimately connected with the civil history of the parish. The fidelity of this excellent man,—his uncompromising principles,—his extensive influence and celebrity as a preacher, procured him the distinction of being included in the number of those Scottish ministers who were watched and marked for proscription by the advisers of Charles II. An order was in consequence issued for his removal from Westruther, and a curate appointed to fill his place. About a year after, however, he returned to this charge on the death of the curate, and upon a pressing invitation from the people. Though his name does not appear in the number of indulged ministers, and though he was menaced by judicial proceedings, he continued to preach and to enjoy his stipend, which was contrary to the law at that period, but was in some instances winked at. This eminent man, who was a great blessing not only to his parish, but to a widely extended district, and second to none in that age but his more celebrated brother, died on his return from the Commission of the Assembly at Dalkeith, in December 1703.*

* It is proper to notice here, *Mr Thomas Bell*, a man the very opposite in character to the preceding, and who deserves not to be dragged from the obscurity in which his name is buried, but for his connection with, and influence over, the fate of Veitch. This unworthy person was born at Spottiswoode, as the historian says, "of the meaner sort of gentry," and was in his earlier years patronized by the minister of the parish, who gave him his education, brought him up with a view to the ministry, and took such an interest in his behalf as to procure money from Torwoodlee and other Christian gentlemen, to carry on his preparatory course of studies. The countenance of these benefactors, however, was withdrawn on the recommendation of Mr Veitch, who got notice that their liberality had been misapplied; and Bell, seeing no means of regaining his respectability in Westruther, and reduced for a time to the greatest extremities, fled to England, where he succeeded in obtaining the curacy of Allenton in Northumberland. No sooner was he settled in that place, than, burning with revenge for the affront that Veitch had put upon him, he omitted no means of injuring the reputation, and ruining the comfort, of his former benefactor. It was through his instigation, and by his calumnious reports, that Veitch first fell under the suspicion of the court, and that the mind of Lauderdale, otherwise disposed to befriend him, was for a while poisoned against him. The life and wretched death of this Presbyterian renegade may be found detailed in Hutchison's Northumberland.

Besides these persons, who were either natives of Westruther, or were established residents in it, the following persons spent the earlier part of their life, and received their education there: John Home, author of the *Tragedy of Douglas*; Lord Kaimes, occasionally; the late James Ballantyne, Esq. printer, and the late George Bell, Esq. surgeon, both of Edinburgh; the present Dr Douglas of Kelso and others.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest entry in the parochial registers is dated November 27, 1655, just seven years after the erection of Westruther into a separate parish. This record commenced during the incumbency of Mr John Veitch. The registers are not voluminous, extending only to three small volumes; and they seem to have been as regularly kept as appears to have been thought necessary in former times. Their greatest defect is the want of designations. There are many chasms, perhaps during vacancies, or when there was no schoolmaster.

Antiquities.—There were anciently three religious houses in the parish,—one respectively at Wedderlie, Spottiswoode, and Bassendean. The chapel at Wedderlie is of great antiquity, as several charters relating to it still exist, which were framed in the thirteenth century. It has long been in ruins, and nothing remains to mark the place where it stood, except a vault belonging to it, into which, as tradition reports, the monks at the Reformation conveyed their most valuable effects, till a convenient opportunity occurred for their removal. That at Spottiswoode was built by the lord of the manor during the reign of David II., for the benefit of his family and hamlet. It received the name of Whitechapel, and long stood in ruins, till these were entirely swept away when the ground was cleared for building the present offices at Spottiswoode. The only relic of it that has been preserved is a baptismal font. The chapel at Bassendean, the ruins of which still exist to the height of ten or twelve feet from the ground, was employed for religious purposes, and served by a vicar, long before the Reformation. The church lands, and mansion belonging to the vicarage, were conveyed by the last incumbent to Sir James Home of Coldenknows, who obtained from James VI. a charter for the same in 1573. The person who thus built his house on church lands, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the chapel, was the ancestor of the Homes of Bassendean. The interior of the chapel is still used as a burying-place by that family.

There are said to be the remains of a Roman camp on the farm of Raecleugh, a little above Bruntiburn, and another in Harelaw moor; but the mounds are now so indistinct, and have been so much injured by time and other causes, that it is impossible to judge with any accuracy, from their present appearance, whether or not they are to be considered as the vestiges of a Roman encampment.*

A place on the moors of the farm of Wedderlie has from time immemorial been called Gibb's cross, where tradition affirms that a person of that name suffered martyrdom for his attachment to the Protestant faith. But the writer of this, notwithstanding every inquiry, has not been able to ascertain the truth of the report. Among the relics of antiquity may be mentioned also a triangular stone that belonged to the house of Archbishop Spottiswoode at Glasgow. It was brought hither when that house passed into other hands, and is inscribed with the Latin words, "Mihi vivere Christus et mori lucrum." It now forms the pediment of a window in the lodge-house of Spottiswoode.—Harit's dike, which extended from Berwick westward along the whole country, passed through this parish to the north of the village of Westruther. The tract is still visible.—There are no ruins of old houses now except Evelaw, or, as it is popularly called, Ively tower, which is still pretty entire, and was one of those castellated houses that were common on the borders before the union of the two kingdoms, in the reign of James VI. There were several of these in this parish formerly, which have all fallen beneath the wasting hand of time, but the one now mentioned. There were also connected with these what are called *vaults*, which were not subterranean cellars, but buildings erected for the preservation of cattle, which were so closely and compactly built, that there was no crevice or opening in them, but small holes here and there interspersed along the wall, serving the double purpose of admitting air to the beasts within, and of allowing the owners to shoot at any who might threaten an attack on their property. Both these species of buildings were evidently suggested by the necessities of an unsettled period; when the border reivers, suddenly crossing the

* A few coins were found on the Flass farm, belonging to the age of David I., and a great quantity of coins was discovered in a cave at the ruins of the chapel in Wedderlie. It is to be regretted that these were distributed throughout the country, or sold to people who cannot now be traced. But it is said that none of them were of an ancient date; and it is generally supposed that they had been deposited there as a place of security by some of the inhabitants of Wedderlie during the religious wars of the seventeenth century.

march, carried off whole herds of the neighbouring cattle, and when "the good old rule sufficed them,

——— the simple plan,
That they should take who have the power,
And they should keep who can."^a

Within the last few years, several stone coffins have been discovered by the ploughmen in fields which had long lain in pasture. The skeletons were in a good state of preservation, and the coffins constructed of large and broad stones, which were arranged in the most regular order. The situation of these graves, coupled with the fact, that many similar relics have been found in the adjoining parish of Lauder, seems to strengthen the tradition, that at some remote period, the date of which cannot now be ascertained, the cause of Scottish independence was maintained on the northern heights of Westruther. The well-known Twinlaw-cairns, composed of two large piles of stones, and visible from a great distance, are the rude and uncemented memorials of the same contest, and are said to have been reared † with a special view to perpetuate the memory of two persons of the name of Edgar, twin-brothers, and leaders in the contending armies, who, ignorant of their mutual relationship, resolved to decide the matter by single combat. ‡

* In one of these raids, when, though the attack was chiefly made on the castle of Blythe, the baronial residence of Sir Richard Maitland of Ledington, the whole of this parish was scoured, it is recorded that 5000 sheep, 200 nolt, 30 horses and mares, were taken away by the marauders. It was on this occasion that the poetical knight wrote his ballad called the "Blind Baron's Comfort."

† The traditionary account of the mode of erecting these cairns is curious. The stones were procured from a brook at the northern base of the hill, and the soldiers on both sides, having suspended hostilities on the death of their leaders, ranged themselves in a line from the bottom to the top of the declivity, and handed the stones from one to another, till their simple monument was completed.

‡ This contest has been celebrated in a poem, which, as it seems to have escaped the diligence of the collectors of ancient ballads, it may be proper to insert. It does not bear the marks of a very high antiquity, but it has been known here for at least a century and a half. I give it as taken down from the recital of an old inhabitant.

The Battle of Twinlaw.

1

In days of yore, when deeds were rife,
And wars on banks and braes,
And nought but strife on every side,
Which brought on dule and waes.

2

The Anglo-Saxon's restless band
Had crossed the river Tweed,
Up for the hills of Lammermuir,
Their hosts march'd on with speed.

3

Our Scottish warriors on the heath
In close battalion stood,
Resolved to set their country free,
Or shed their dearest blood.

4

A chieftain from the Saxon band
Exulting in his might,
Defied the bravest of the Scots
To come to single fight.

5

Old Edgar had a youthful son,
Who led the Scottish band,
He with the Saxon did agree
To fight it hand to hand.

6

The armies stood in deep suspense
The combat for to view,
While aged Edgar stepped forth
To bid his son adieu.

Modern Buildings.—The only modern mansion is the new house now in the course of being built at Spottiswoode. It is in the old English style. The public rooms are of the most splendid description. It is surrounded by a very handsome terrace, 300 feet in length, ornamented by handsome balustrades, pedestals, and vases. The corridor is lighted by a well-proportioned tower in the centre of the building. The tower itself has a very striking effect when viewed from a distance overtopping the tall trees. The new house is connected with the old family mansion, which has undergone very important alterations, so that the whole will have a unique appearance. It is not yet completed, but was fitted up in a temporary, but very elegant style on a late auspicious occasion,—the marriage of Mr Spottiswoode's second daughter to Sir Hugh Campbell of Marchmont, M. P. for Berwickshire.

The mansion-house at Bassendean, an old and plain building, has been recently repaired and modernized in a handsome style, and the adjacent grounds very tastefully laid out.

The mansion-house at Wedderlie is an antique building, which

7
 “ Adieu ! Adieu ! my darling son,
 I fear that ye be lost,—
 For yester night my troubled mind
 With fearful dreams was tossed.

8
 “ I dreamed your mother's parted shade
 Between two armies stood ;
 A lonely youth on every hand
 With bosoms streaming blood.

9
 “ My heart will break if you should fall,
 My only prop and stay,—
 Your brother, when in infant years,
 The Saxons bore away.”

10
 “ Delay it not,” young Edgar said,
 “ But let the trumpets blow,
 You soon shall see me prove your son,
 And lay yon boaster low.”

11
 The trumpets, raised with deafening clang,
 The fearful onset blew,
 And then the chieftains stepped forth,
 Their shining swords they drew.

12
 Like lions in a furious fight,
 Their steeled faulchions gleam,
 Till from our Scottish warrior's side
 Fast flowed a crimson stream.

13
 With deafening din on the coats of mail
 The deadly blows resound,—
 At last the Saxon warrior,
 Did breathless press the ground.

14
 An aged Saxon came to view
 The body of his chief,
 His streaming eyes, and downcast looks,
 Bespoke a heart of grief.

15
 “ He's dead,” he cried, “ the bravest youth
 Ere sprang from Edgar's line,
 I bore him from the Scottish coasts
 And made him pass for mine.

16
 “ And in the days of youthful prime
 He was my pride and boast,
 For oft to bravery he has
 Led on the Saxon host.”

17
 Old Edgar heard the Saxon's moan,
 His cheeks grew deadly pale;
 A great convulsion shook his frame,
 His nerves began to fail.

18
 Frantic, he tore his aged locks
 With time and trouble gray ;
 And faintly crying, my son ! my son !
 His spirit fled away.

19
 The Scottish chief, as his father fell,
 He raised his fading eye,
 And tore the bandage of his wounds
 To let life's streams run dry.

20
 He kissed his sire, and his brother's wounds,
 That ghastly were and deep,
 And closed him in his folding arms,
 And fell on his long, long sleep.

has been allowed to fall entirely into disrepair, being never inhabited by the family except for a few weeks in the shooting season.

There are 12 thrashing-mills, 2 corn-mills, and a saw-mill. The corn and saw-mills at Bruntiburn are driven by the same water.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish seems to have been anciently much greater than it has ever been found to be since the census was taken under the directions of Parliament,—the decrease being the consequence, partly, of emigration, and partly of the junction of farms. Some of the older inhabitants can enumerate more than thirty onsteads, on each of which four or five families were grouped together, which are now entirely desolate, and have been converted into a ploughed field. Since the census began to be taken, no material alteration in the population has taken place.

Population of the village of Westruther in 1831,	-	167
Houndslow,	-	90
in the country,	-	613
		<hr/>
		870
1. Number of families in the parish,	-	165
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	104
		in trade, manufactures, and handicraft, 23
2. The number of persons in 1831 under 15 years of age was,	-	335
above 70,	-	30

There are 3 bachelors, and 4 fatuous persons.

Habits and Character of the People.—Formerly school-boys were accustomed to amuse themselves with cock-fighting on Fasten's eve,—each having a cock trained for the purpose, and the victor in the contest had, besides the honour of conquest, the burden imposed on him of paying for a foot-ball, which ended the sport of the day. This barbarous amusement, with which Fasten's eve was ushered in, was discontinued when the present schoolmaster came into office, who, greatly to his credit, used all his influence to abolish it; and the other more innocent game being so closely connected with it, was also gradually relinquished; the matches often consisted of more than 100 persons on each side. Sometimes the whole parish turned out, but generally the battle was pitched by the unmarried against the married men. There used to be much sport and merriment also at the celebration of penny-weddings, but these, on the interference of the church courts, were prohibited, and since that period there have been no stated amusements of a public kind among the people;—the fairs, which occur at various times in the course of the summer, affording sufficient opportunity for the relaxation and diversion

of the labouring-classes.—This, however, being a pastoral and hilly district, it must not be forgotten that there is plenty of amusement of a different description, and that the sports of the chace may be both enjoyed and witnessed here at almost all times during the season. Notwithstanding the temptations presented by the character of the country, it is believed that poaching in game does not prevail to any great extent.—In consequence of the parish being long in a sort of insulated state, and the condition of the people exposed to no such fluctuations as affect that of a commercial or manufacturing population, the character of the parishioners is distinguished by a primitive simplicity, which is not, however, the simplicity of ignorance, but which is more fitly expressed by open-heartedness, and by an absence of all chicanery and guile. In the earlier history of the parish, this simplicity was allied with much superstition; and as the character of the country gave most of the people an interest in the pursuits of pastoral life, there was no way in which superstition showed itself so much as in what related to the preservation of their cattle. In almost every stable, stones which had any natural hole in them were suspended as amulets; and it was not an uncommon thing to see a herd grazing in a field—with a piece of red tape and mountain-ash on the left horn of every beast to charm away disease. Sometimes this spirit of superstition manifested a darker character; and an instance is recorded of a horse having been burnt alive at Flass in 1726, during a great mortality that prevailed among the cattle. Such remedies have been long ago exploded: and the *mind* of the people is evidently advancing;—one proof of which is, that formerly there seem to have been one or two individuals whom every body regarded as oracles, whereas at present there is no such monopoly of wisdom. Religious knowledge, especially, is universally, diffused, and it is hoped that not a few apply it to its practical ends.—The houses of the hinds and labourers consist generally but of one apartment, which is kept in good order, and would be in most respects comfortable, were it not for the want of chimneys. The fire is lighted on the hearth, and there being no outlet for the smoke but a rude crevice made in the unceiled roof, the houses are almost constantly filled with a dense cloud, which hovers at the height of 5 or 6 feet above the floor. This smoke, proceeding from peat, communicates a smell to the clothes which is strong and offensive to such as are not accustomed to it.

It may be said, however, with propriety and truth, that the people in general are cleanly in their habits, and show a becoming neatness in their dress. About fifty years ago, no man or woman wore any clothes but what were made in their own family. Women's gowns and petticoats were woollen stuffs of various colours, and men's clothes were spun by the women, and sent to the weaver and dyer. But now there is scarcely any home manufacture,—even blankets, which, till very lately, were made in each family, being purchased, and that, too, at a cheaper rate than they could be wrought at home. The weavers, who were once numerous in the parish, are reduced to a single individual; and he, an old man, who can now, since the introduction of machinery, and the change in the market, find no other occupation in his way than the manufacture of coarse sheeting for sacks or other agricultural purposes.

The food of the peasantry consists chiefly of the different preparations of oat-meal; cakes are also very generally used of barley meal, baked to a great thickness, and called *fadges*. Pork also makes a constant item in their bill of fare.* Tea, now very generally used, at least by women, was not introduced here till the year 1800, oat-meal being then very high in price. In that year the harvest was late throughout the whole of Scotland, and the crop in Westruther never thoroughly ripened, in consequence of which there was a great dearth; meal sold at 8s. a stone; rice and foreign corn were bought by the session at Berwick, and sold out at a reduced price to those who were able to purchase it, and the rest, who were on the poors' roll, were supplied with it out of a fund belonging to the session, to be afterwards mentioned. Previously to the introduction of potatoes, the people used to provide a sort of seasoning to their bread by laying up a stock of herrings. The time for doing this was Lammas, at which season they were in the habit of going in bands to Dunbar, and making the purchase of as many of these fish as would serve their family during winter. The introduction of potatoes made an important addition to the livelihood of the peasantry. These were a considerable time in the parish, however, before they were generally used.

* Persons still living remember the time when in the farmers' houses there were only one knife and fork, and the practice was, for the master of the house to apportion the share of butcher meat which each member of the family should receive, and, retaining the knife and fork for his own use, to leave the rest to eat their meat in the primitive oriental manner. Several individuals also remember the time when there were only three tea-kettles in the parish,—in Spottiswoode, Wedderlie, and the manse. It is scarcely necessary to say, that the farmers of the present day enjoy, in a liberal measure, the ordinary comforts and luxuries of life.

They were at first confined to a small part of a field, which was dug with the spade for the purpose. But after their utility became known, every person in the parish who had a house was furnished with a piece of land as large as their manure would cover, on which to grow potatoes.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—It appears that a much greater part of the parish was in tillage in ancient times than now, as is evident from various fields, which, though they have long lain in a state of pasture, bear the marks of the plough; and even as far up as the Twinlaw vaults, the high ridges and low furrows of the ancient system of ploughing are still visible; heather is fast covering several places where good grain was wont to be reared. Notwithstanding this, however, the agriculture of the parish has been advancing at a rapid rate of improvement for the last twenty-five years.

The number of acres which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage is 11,000. The land which is under wood may amount to about 850 acres, including both natural and planted wood, besides which, there are about 150 acres lying in a state of moss. The total number of acres in the parish will thus be 12,000.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land is 12s. per acre. The average rent of grazing for an ox is L. 3; for a full-grown sheep in the low lands 10s.; in the high lands of the parish, 5s. The total rental of the parish is upwards of L. 5000.

Rate of Wages.—The yearly wages of a man-servant is L. 9, with his victuals; of a female who lives in the house, L. 7, with her victuals; of a hind, L. 25; of a herd, L. 28. Women, in summer, who are *bondagers*,* receive 10d. a-day; those who are not *bondagers*, 1s., both without victuals; in winter they receive at the rate of 1d. an hour. Tailors receive from 1s. 4d. to 1s. 6d., and their victuals; wrights, 2s. 6d.; smiths are paid L. 3 per yoke of horse; dikers are paid 2s. per rood, 5½ feet high; labourers from 1s. 6d. to 2s.

Live-Stock.—The breed of cattle and sheep has been greatly im-

* The class of servants here called *bondagers* are not less free and independent than other labourers, but they are distinguished from others by being engaged by the hinds or ploughmen to perform upon their master's farm the ordinary work of weeding, hoeing, barn-work, &c. They receive a rate of wages for the half year similar to that of house-servants. The hind pays these half years' wages, with board to the *bondager*; but receives the day-wages earned by the latter, which are generally equivalent to the wages and board. This arrangement is found convenient, and even necessary, to the various operations of a farm in thinly peopled districts.

proved. Those which pasture on the soil which rests on a freestone bottom are generally better and fatter than those which pasture on a whinstone soil. The cattle are improved by the Teeswater bulls. The sheep are of three kinds, Cheviot and Leicester, and black-faced. The hogs here are rather of a coarse description, and those which have been brought from England, such as the Cleveland breed, have been found to degenerate. About seventy years ago, there were few or no pigs in the parish, as there were then no turnips nor potatoes for them to feed upon. The first pigs reared in the parish were at Bruntiburn, as kain to the Laird of Spottiswoode.

The number of live-stock in the parish may be estimated as follows :—220 horses ; 816 black cattle ; 6220 sheep. The number of cattle of all kinds is greatly increased since the last Account was published. The increase arises from various causes. In respect of horses, it proceeds chiefly from there being a large coach-proprietor in the parish, whose stud is seldom less than 40. In respect of other kinds of stock, it proceeds from the present high state of cultivation of the arable and pasture lands, and from the care taken from time to time to change and improve the breed. It may be mentioned as one instance of the rich pastures about Spottiswoode, that there was an ox reared there in 1802, which was publicly exhibited in all parts of the kingdom, weighing 320 stones 14 lb. to the stone, and sold for 200 guineas.

Husbandry.—The general character of the husbandry pursued is the four years' rotation. This has been considered fatiguing to a light soil, particularly injurious to oats, by bringing on grub, and to turnips, by producing *fingers-and-toes*. In some farms, accordingly, the tenant is bound to the five years' rotation, that is, to keep the field in pasture every fifth year. *

With regard to the implements of husbandry, there are no peculiarities to be mentioned, save that the old Scotch plough continued to be used here till a comparatively recent period. It was drawn by two horses in front, and two oxen behind ; sometimes

* Turnips were first introduced here in 1765 ; clover a little before that. The field in Wedderlie, where it was first sown, still goes by the name of the Clover park. Before the introduction of turnips, the farmers had little occupation for their horses during summer ; so that after the barley seed was over, they took off the shoes of their horses, and set them out to graze till hay-time. But few carts were used formerly here ; corn and every thing being carried on horses' backs. In this way the farmers drove their grain to Dalkeith market, and when there were several horses, the leading one had a bell attached to his neck, to warn the rest of the track through the moor.

without horses, and with as many as six or even eight oxen. This is now entirely superseded by the improved form of Small's plough, and two horses is the common strength applied to it in all parts of the parish. Deep-trenching has been tried with success on land just reclaimed from a state of waste. Of the manures, besides the common farm-yard dung, lime is in the greatest use, and, notwithstanding the distance from which it must be brought, which is twenty miles, the farmers find their advantage in the abundant application of this excellent and powerful manure. It is laid down on the field in dry heaps, and afterwards spread. This has been most successfully used on parts of the parish, where formerly the only attempt at improvement consisted in burning the heather. The fields where this manure is laid for the first time bear two successive crops of grain. Bone-dust has also been used.

The pasture lands about Westruther, as in most other places of Berwickshire, anciently lay in a state of undivided common. But more than seventy years ago this promiscuous pasturage ceased, and the lands were appropriated and fences raised. Although in those times, when the pasture was enjoyed in common, there were certain regulations in force by which the tenants fed their flocks in various proportions, yet it cannot be doubted that the division of the pasture lands has conduced as well to order, and to the comfort of the occupiers, as it has done to the improvement of the pasture itself, and the consequent better breeding of the cattle. Such an appropriation, however, of what had for time immemorial been regarded as common, was a work of no small difficulty; and when at last it was, after much and lengthened agitation, brought to a termination, the scholars attending the school were brought out to be witnesses of the several boundaries agreed on, as those who in the course of nature would live to attest the distribution of the land long after the original promoters of the scheme were removed. It was at this time, and from this circumstance, that the feuars of Westruther arose; the small pieces of land which they occupy, and which till very lately were very numerous, being held of one or other of the large proprietors of the parish.

Plantations.—Westruther was formerly overrun with forests of natural wood, which have been greatly diminished within the memory of many persons who are still alive, and the only remnant that is now to be found of them is the diminutive and straggling wood at Flass. In the boggier parts of the valley, on the north side of the parish,

the stumps of these old trees are visible in dry weather, and not unfrequently interpose unexpected obstacles to the work of the mower. This close and stunted wood, surrounded as it was with heather and bogs, gave the whole country an aspect of dreariness and gloom.* If, however, the old natural wood has almost entirely disappeared, its place has been more than occupied by more thriving and beautiful trees, planted by the hand of man. The system of planting began during the time of the grandfather of the present laird of Spottiswoode. It has been regularly carried on ever since; and in consequence of the very spirited improvements which the last twenty-five years have witnessed, a very large proportion of the parish has been beautified and sheltered with wood. Formerly it was thought the coldness of the climate was prejudicial to the growth of plantation; and it was even said, in the Reports of the Agriculturists, that no trees would thrive on the brow of the Lammermoor. Experience has shown that this opinion was wrong, since one of the most thriving plantations on the whole of Spottiswoode estate is at Bruntiburn, one of the highest points in the parish. The failure and the stunted growth of trees formerly arose not from the climate so much as from the mode of planting on a wet soil, and in small belts, in which no shelter was afforded. A more judicious system is now adopted, by first drying the ground through drains, and by surrounding the more valuable with meaner wood, whose quicker and luxuriant growth may defend the infant sapling, till it in turn rises to maturity, when it can bid defiance to the blast. It must not be supposed, from what has been said of a regular and extensive system of planting being comparatively recent, that there are no old trees in the parish. There are some of a great age, some planes, in particular, which are computed to be about 500 years old. Larch may be said to be most adapted to the climate; but trees of every kind, and of every name, have been planted, and are flourishing.

Improvements.—It may be mentioned, that a great deal has been done here in the way of reclaiming waste lands, and of improving by drains in various parts of Westruther. On the Spottiswoode estate alone there is the astonishing number of thirty miles of drains interspersed, from 5, 7, to 13 feet in depth. Besides, there are some thousand roods of open cuts, averaging from 10 to 20 feet wide, and from 5 to 7 feet deep, which discharge a large body of water on the eastern side into the Blackadder, and on the western side into one of

* It was while wandering here, in solitary musing, that Home composed the greater part of his Tragedy of Douglas.

the tributaries of the Leader. The advantages of this extensive system of draining are incalculable ; it has brought into a state of tillage, pasture, and thriving plantation many hundred acres which were formerly overflowing with water, added much beauty to the place, and improved the salubrity of the climate, besides affording shelter to the cattle. It may be added, that the agreement between landlord and tenant in such matters is, that the landlord cuts the drains, while the tenant drives the stones, and fills the trenches. *

The general duration of leases is nineteen years; and perhaps in a country where so much requires to be done, it would be still more favourable for the tenant to have the lease extended to 21 years, as has sometimes been done. Subtenants are generally excluded. The entry to the possession of the houses and to the grass is at Whitsunday, and to the arable lands at the gathering in of the crop of that year. The first half-year's rent is payable a twelvemonth after entry. The farms which were about fifty years ago generally very small, have been thrown together, and converted into large farms, which was certainly a good arrangement for the farmer, and indeed absolutely necessary in a country where the chief dependence must always be on the stock. The rent of the largest farm at present is L. 465. Of course the difference cannot be ascertained from this circumstance between the rent of the present day, and the rate of land per acre at the period when the farms were of much smaller extent. But, in general, it may be stated, as a proof of the great improvement which enlarging the farms has been the means of introducing, that a farm which thirty years ago was let at L. 30, is now rated at L. 105. The greater part of the parish is already enclosed with hedges and dikes, and progress is daily making in that department. The accommodation afforded to the farmer may be described as in every way excellent. The houses are of a superior description, there being few places where any farmers can boast of a better or more elegant and commodious style of building. The houses are generally two stories high, wide in proportion, and covered with slate. The offices bear generally a proportion in size and neatness to the house of the farmer. They are well apportioned, consisting of a stable, cow-house, shade for the cattle, a dairy, a piggery, a poultry-house, all the appurtenances, in short, necessary for a farm establishment, and formed into a rectangle, the size of which varies according to

* These spirited improvements have been carried on under the skilful superintendence of Mr Black at Spottiswoode, who obtained for an essay on draining a silver cup from the Highland Society.

the character, extent, and other circumstances of the farm. In agreements as to buildings or repairs, the tenant engages to drive the materials, such as lime, sand, stone, slate, wood, &c.; and the landlord pays the building. The same happens in the building or repairing of dikes. On the whole, the greatest encouragement is held out by every proprietor in the parish to the tenant to make improvements, and he who does so on the most liberal scale, not only finds his reward in the return made to him from the improved state of his farm, but also in the greater readiness of the landlord to accommodate him, and to satisfy his reasonable demands.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:

Oats, 1117 acres at L. 3,	-	-	L. 3351	0	0
Barley, 183 acres at L. 4,	-	-	732	0	0
Turnips, 526 at L. 3,	-	-	1578	0	0
Potatoes, 62 acres at L. 10,	-	-	620	0	0
Clover-hay, 328 acres at L. 3,	-	-	984	0	0
In pasture, 8784 acres at 2s. 6d.	-	-	1345	10	0
Gardens,	-	-	160	0	0
Thinning and felling of wood,	-	-	200	0	0
			<hr/>		
			L. 9270	10	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns, &c.—The nearest market-town is Lauder; and another market has been recently opened at Greenlaw,—neither of which are above seven miles from the farthest part of Westruther.

The only villages now in the parish are those of Westruther and Hounslow. The former is of great antiquity; the latter was erected within these fifty years.

Means of Communication.—There is no post-office in the parish, but while the family of Spottiswoode reside in the country, a courier is despatched daily to the post-office in Lauder, of which arrangement, the parish, as well as the family, receives the benefit. The mail-curricule runs every day, and the Edinburgh and Dunse coach six days a-week, along the great road from Edinburgh to Newcastle, which passes through Hounslow. This line of road extends about five miles through the parish. The parish, indeed, is very well supplied with good roads. There were no roads, except such as were made by the track, in the year 1745; for a person recently dead remembers well to have seen Sir John Cope's troops in their flight from Prestonpans, scouring the Harelaw-moor, and inquiring in what direction Coldstream lay. The road from Whiteburn to Kelso was made in 1800; that from Whiteburn to Dunse, during the subsequent year, by subscription. It may be estimated

that there are upwards of fifteen miles of turnpike roads,—on which there are three bridges, and all in excellent condition.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is nearly in the centre of the parish, about three miles distant from the extremities; and although it is three quarters of a mile from the manse, yet perhaps there is not another place in all respects so eligible for the site of the church, as where it now stands. It was built, as already noticed, in the year 1649,—a very plain building, covered with heather without, and unceiled within, but much larger and more commodious than it now is. In the year 1752, it underwent important alterations, as, besides the necessary repairs it received, it was reduced to its present small dimensions. The reason of this reduction in its size was, that the bodily infirmities of the minister, together with the breaking out of the Secession, and the appointment of one of that body to a place in Stichel, who, to his other popular attractions, added the charm of preaching in the open air, had so greatly reduced the congregation, that it was agreed upon, for the comfort of the small remnant that frequented it, to reduce the church to one-third of its size; and, accordingly, the Wedderlie aisle, which fronted the pulpit, and which is said to have been ornamented with the family arms, and other carved work, and to have been altogether the best part of the church, was taken away. The roof also was lowered, while the steeple, uncurtailed of its length, remained the sole memorial of the ancient dignity of the building.

Since that period, the church of Westruther has received no intermediate repairs of consequence, and was so rapidly falling into decay, that the heritors in 1807, met, from time to time, to concert measures for a new building. But their consultations at that time ended in some repairs, which, though designed to be only temporary, have been considered sufficient to the present day. It is believed that the heritors, than whom none can be more attentive to the wants of a parish, have it in contemplation to improve the present condition of the church. The edifice, as it now stands, may accommodate from 350 to 400 people. There are free sittings in the centre, which will accommodate about thirty people.

It may be mentioned among the many good effects produced by the ministry of Mr Veitch in Westruther, that, in consequence of the vast multitudes who repaired to him, especially on sacramental occasions, when persons of the first respectability came from all parts of the surrounding country, and some from as far as Edinburgh, and even Fife, the collections for the poor were most liberal, and far exceeded the demand made by the greatest number

ever found at one time in the parish. They were allowed, therefore, to accumulate, and were never encroached upon till the scarcity in 1800, already alluded to, together with other unfortunate circumstances, greatly reduced them. They still, however, amount to a considerable sum.

There have been three manses since Westruther became a parish. Of the first, the only relic that remains is the foundation-stone, a large shapeless block of whinstone, inscribed with the initials of John Veitch, 1649. These three manses have stood all nearly on the same site, although they have been successively withdrawn a few yards farther south from the road,—which is now felt to be an advantage, from its admitting a small plantation, that adds to the beauty and comfort of the place. The present one was built in 1819. The expense of the building, L. 584, 18s. It is a commodious and comfortable house, and is furnished with excellent offices.

The glebe consists of rather more than twenty acres, of which there may be four that lie constantly in pasture; the rest is good arable land, particularly the east part of it, on which excellent wheat is often raised. It varies much in the quality of the soil; but its general value, in the eyes of practical farmers, is estimated from about L. 25 to L. 30 a-year. Its extent, which is larger than the legal allotment, was probably occasioned by the state of the western part of it, which formed originally a branch of Westruther common: on that common the minister had, with others, the right of pasturage at his pleasure, and a large portion of it was assigned to him in lieu of the extensive privilege he resigned. The stipend of Westruther was fixed at 1000 merks by decret of locality dated 8th March 1693. In 1755 it was L. 63, 12s. 10d. In 1798 it amounted to L. 105, 16s. 8d. Sterling. It was raised to L. 150 when the Government bounty was extended to Scotland, which, together with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements, and L. 2, 10s. for giving up the right of casting turf on Bassendean estate, makes the total amount of the minister's stipend L. 160, 16s. 8d.

The number of dissenters is computed at 34, all of whom belong to what was originally called the Secession. The parish church itself is very well attended. The average number of communicants is 420. The collection at the sacrament in 1833 was L. 2, 14s. 3½d., and the total amount of contributions during that year was L. 17, 18s. 3¼d.

Education.—There seems to have been a parish school here ever since there was a church. The school, however, was kept in the western gallery of the church till about the first quarter of

the last century, when, by accident, the gallery took fire and was destroyed. This was the first occasion of the erection of a school-house in Westruther. The present school-house is a spacious apartment, well-ventilated, and heated by a stove recently erected at the expense of the heritors. The teacher, who has been qualified by the most liberal education, has the legal accommodations, but the minimum salary. The amount of school-fees he receives may be about L.10 a-year; he has also L. 5 a-year for collecting poors' rate. Besides the parish school there are three private schools, which are supported by individual subscription. The branches taught at all of these are the same; and the rate of school-fees is per quarter, 2s. 6d. for English reading; 3s. 6d. for reading and writing; 4s. 6d. for arithmetic; 7s. 6d. for Latin. There are no persons in the parish between six and fifteen years of age who cannot read or write. It may be added, that a Sabbath-school, which the writer instituted a few years ago, is well attended.

Library.—The people are fond of reading, the means of indulging in which are liberally afforded to the inhabitants of the west end of the parish, from a stock of small and popular works purchased, and furnished to them gratuitously, by the family of Spottiswoode. A library is on the eve of being established for the benefit of the parish at large. The family library at Spottiswoode is a valuable and extensive collection, containing a variety of works on law, history, and general literature,—many of them such as are not commonly to be met with. There are also some rare editions of well-known books.

Savings Bank—A savings bank was established in 1815. From its commencement to November last, there was deposited the sum of L. 1286, and withdrawn L. 1077. The investments are chiefly made by servants and labourers. The average amount of deposits yearly for the last eighteen years, is L. 72; of withdrawals, L. 60.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons on the poors' roll is 24, and the average expense L. 4, 13s. 4d. per annum. The assessment was L. 91, 16s. 1d. The collections, L. 20, 5s. 4d. The total amount, L. 112, 1s. 5d. in the year 1832. The assessment fluctuates between L. 70 and L. 90 per annum. This legal provision, though it is not without its attendant evils, has not produced such injurious effects here as in some other places,—the poor being in general satisfied with the allowance made to them, as well as reluctant to come upon the roll. There are no benevolent societies for supplying the wants of the poor. Fortunately there is no occasion for these, since, in addition to the as-

sessment, the family of the principal resident proprietor are indefatigable and exemplary in attending to the wants of the poor ; and even during their periodical absence, they furnish the minister and others with the means of relieving the indigent and the distressed. We may say, indeed, that there are few parishes where the condition of the poorer classes is better than in Westruther.

This parish has long been peculiarly infested by sturdy beggars and vagrants. But by a regulation lately made on the threatened appearance of cholera, they were prohibited from being entertained in the parish ; in consequence of which, few or none are now to be seen. The same regulation adopted in other parishes, could not fail to be equally beneficial. The minds of the benevolent in this parish were reconciled to the measure by a subscription raised to provide lodging and necessaries for those houseless wanderers who might be overtaken here by night.

Inns.—There are five alehouses in the parish,—more than are required for the convenience of the inhabitants. It is proper, however, to add, that the working-classes of Westruther are generally a sober race.

Fuel.—The nearest place whence coals can be procured is about twenty miles distant from this parish, in consequence of which numbers are precluded from the use of them. The fuel in general use is peat. The wages of a labourer employed in digging this fuel are 2s. 2d. per day ; and two days' work of a caster, with two assistants to hurl and spread out the peats as they are cast, are reckoned sufficient to meet the demand of a hind's or labourer's family. The farmers, and others in better circumstances, take sometimes a much longer time. Coal is from 11d. to 1s. per cwt. Turf is now prohibited to be taken for fuel.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

This parish has been advancing for a long time in an almost geometrical progression, in everything that constitutes a “ right moral, and a right economical,” state of a parish,—in its general appearance,—in the rank it holds among the agricultural parishes of the county,—in its means of communication with other parts of the country,—and in the intelligence of its inhabitants. Forty years ago more than a third of the land was waste and incapable of improvement, on a great proportion of which the yellow corn is now seen to wave ; and if a similar interval pass before a third Statistical Account be demanded, such an inroad shall have been made on the few bogs and mosses that are still unimproved, as will leave little to tell of the ancient condition of Westruther beyond the name.

June 1834.

PARISH OF CHANNELKIRK.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. JAMES RUTHERFORD, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE ancient name of the parish was *Childer-kirk*, i. e. Children's Kirk, having been dedicated to the Innocents. More recently its name was *Gingle-kirk*. It is so written in our old parochial records; and it is still commonly so pronounced. Its etymology is uncertain; probably it may have had a reference to the nature of the soil, which is chiefly of a gravelly sort. This parish is of a circular figure, nearly six miles in diameter; consequently its extent in square miles is about twenty-eight. It is bounded on the east, and partly on the north and south, by Lauder; by Stow on the west, and partly on the south; and on the north by Fala and Humble.

Topographical Appearances.—The parish consists of hills and valleys, with a small portion of flat land. The hills may be all considered as part of the Lammermoor range which terminates here. The greatest is Soutra, elevated about 1000 feet above the level of the sea. The vale of the Leader or Lauderdale commences here, stretching to the east, the Lammermoor hills being its northern boundary. On the south, this valley is bounded by the ridge of moors which separate it from that of Gala.

The climate is healthy, probably owing to the gravelly nature of the soil, its almost universal declivities, and the general practice of draining, which frees it from stagnant water and marshy grounds, and to the prevalence of strong winds, which blow almost incessantly. It is, however, subject to frequent and sudden changes of temperature, and the cold and snows of winter are often severely felt. Inflammations are the most common distempers.

Hydrography.—This district is well watered by many streams of the purest water, which flow copiously from all the hills, and fall into the rivulet of the principal valley, which, about the centre

Geology.—The hills all seem to consist of rocks of the trap formation, the strata having uniformly a dip to south. In the bottom of the Leader are found beds of red sandstone, which is used for building. Strata of very fine gravel and sand appear in many places, and are found at considerable elevations on the sides of the hills. A deep bed of peat is found on the hills, wherever there is any great extent of flat surface.

Land-Owners.—The land belongs to eleven different proprietors, the chief of whom, as respects the value of their property, are, the Marquis of Tweeddale, John Borthwick, Esq. of Crookston, James Sommerville, Esq. of Airhouse.

Antiquities.—There are but few vestiges of antiquity in the parish,—a holy well; and a road with the ruins of a house which devotees used in their pilgrimage to the abbey at Melrose. There are also on the top of several hills very evident marks of ancient encampments.

In 1755, the population was	531
1801, - -	640
1811, - -	707
1821, - -	790
1831, - -	841

There is only one village, Oxton, or, as frequently written, Agston, in which reside 213 persons.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	163
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	85
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	28
2. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	16
of deaths,	-	-	-	5
of marriages,	-	-	-	7

There are only three insane or fatuous persons ; none deaf, or dumb, or blind.

There have been three illegitimate births during the last three years.

Character of the People.—The general character of the people, intellectual, moral, and religious, is respectable; they are desirous of useful information, peaceable, honest, industrious, and attentive to public worship.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of acres which are cultivated in this parish is about 5000. There may be nearly 12,000 acres which never have been cultivated, remaining constantly in pasture. All the land seems at present in tillage that would repay the expense of cultivation. There is only one small piece of undivided common: it does not exceed ten acres, and is called the King's Inch. There is no wood here of natural growth. The plantations cover about 200 acres; the trees generally planted are larches and Scotch firs, mixed with elm and ash. They seem to be properly managed, and thriving.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land is 25s. an acre. The average rent of grazing for a cow or ox, is L. 4; for a sheep, 15s. The real rent of the parish is L. 5400.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of wages for farm-servants, with victuals, is, in summer, for men, L. 5; women, L. 4; in winter, men, L. 3; women, L. 2. Most of the farm-servants are married, and have cottages on the farms. They are paid in a different way, with corn or meal and potatoes, their wages amounting to nearly the same value as those of single men. Day-labourers receive, in summer, weekly, about 12s., in winter, 9s.

Live-Stock.—The common breed of sheep on the hills is the old Scotch black-faced sort. The Cheviot breed is common in the lower districts of the parish. On some farms the Leicestershire has been tried, and found suitable. The plan of husbandry commonly followed is that of four courses, generally practised on soils fit for raising turnips. Neither the soil nor climate encourages the growth of wheat, which, accordingly, is not generally attempted, or only in small quantities.

Husbandry.—There were lately several farms held on leases of the duration of a life, and some for longer periods, extending even to several lives. These are all expired but two; and about twenty years is now the common term for the continuance of a lease. The arable land is nearly all enclosed with good hedges of thorn, or with thorn mixed with beech; some of the pasturage is enclosed

with dry stone walls, but most of it is without any enclosure. The farm-buildings which have been recently erected are in good condition, covered with slates, but most of them are old, thatched, and almost ruinous.

Improvements.—The principal improvements of a general kind lately effected are in the roads. The Edinburgh and Newcastle road through the parish has just been finished on a new line, at great expense. The bye-roads also, supported by assessments on the proprietors of horses, have lately been kept in good condition. The improvements made by individuals consist chiefly of the general draining and enclosing of the land, and of the plantations on the estates of the Marquis of Tweeddale, Airhouse, Kirktonhill, and Collielaw.

Quarries.—There are no quarries in the parish but those of whinstone, used for building and for making roads. The materials they supply are abundant, and of the best description.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The nearest post-office is at Lauder, five miles from the centre of the parish. Only one turnpike road passes through the parish: its length within the parish is about six miles.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated at the hamlet of Channelkirk, nearly in the middle of the parish, but not in the most central place for the population; and, being on the top of a hill of considerable height, its situation is by many found to be very inconvenient. It was built in 1817, and is in good repair. It affords accommodation to 300 persons. The manse was built forty-five, and repaired two years ago. The glebe consists of nine acres, and may be worth L. 18 yearly.

The stipend was fixed by the last decree of the Court of Teinds at 59½ bolls of barley, 138 of oats, and L. 32 money; but, on account of a deficiency of teinds, the whole has not been obtained hitherto.

The Established church is the only place of worship in the parish, and is well attended. The average number of communicants is 250. There is a considerable number of Dissenters,—about 34 families, who attend chapels in the neighbourhood. The collections yearly may amount to L. 8.

Education.—There is only one school, and that the parochial. The schoolmaster's salary is L. 30, and the amount of fees probably L. 40. He has the legal accommodations. The general expense

of a child's education for a year is about 12s. If there be any who cannot read and write, the number must be very small. The people seem generally to appreciate the benefits of education.

Library.—About forty years ago a parochial library was established ; it still continues and prospers. The number of books, most of them well chosen, is considerable.

Friendly Society.—There is also a friendly society, the members of which, by contributing a small sum annually, are entitled to a weekly allowance when unable to work. It has existed thirty-one years, and seems to promote a desire of independence.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is about 16; one shilling is nearly the average sum allowed to each weekly. The annual expense thus brought on the parish may be L. 50, raised, with the exception of a portion of the church collections, by an assessment on the heritors and farmers. The church collections amount to about L. 7 a-year. Parochial relief does not seem to be considered generally so degrading, or to be resorted to with so much reluctance, as might be desired or expected.

Inns.—We have five inns or alehouses, which seem hurtful to morality.

Fuel.—The fuel formerly in general use was peat, which is not so much employed now, because coals can be got at as little expense, being at the distance of only ten miles, and the road to them excellent. Peat is, however, very plentiful, and of the best kind, but the labour of digging and drying is considerable.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The present state of this parish differs from that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, chiefly because the land is generally better cultivated and enclosed ; the plantations made then or since have also given a more sheltered and fertile appearance to the district, and the roads have been greatly improved.

What this parish chiefly wants to promote improvement, to encourage industry, and to contribute to the comfort of the labouring-classes, is the residence of land-owners. Almost all the land belongs to absentees, who seldom or never see their property here, and, consequently, never think of making any alterations either for ornamenting or improving it.

June 1834.

UNITED PARISHES OF LONGFORMACUS AND ELLIM.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. HENRY RIDDELL, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—THE derivation of the name of Longformacus is obscure. Little more light can be thrown upon it than what arises from the spelling of the name at different periods. In 1384, in a charter by the Earl of Orkney to his cousin, “James de Santæ Clair,” the name occurs in the form of “Longfordmakehous.” In 1395, in a charter by the Earl of March to James Sinclair of Lochirmakehous, the lands of “Lochirmackehous” are conveyed. And the same spelling of “Lochirmakehous” is observed in the charters of that time. In 1505 the spelling varies to “Lochirmacus,” and in 1556, and downwards, the name is usually spelt as it now is. It is worthy of remark, that at present the ordinary appellation corresponds with the old spelling of “Lochirmacus.” The spelling of the name of the parish of Ellim often varies even in the same writings,—thus Ellim, Ellem, Elm.

The parishes of Longformacus and Ellim were, on account of their general contiguity, united by decree of annexation, 18th February 1712. At that time the relative proportion of the two parishes, so far as population is concerned, was as two to one, 200 examinable persons being then in Longformacus, and 100 in Ellim.

The parish touches the parishes of Whittingham and Inverwick on the north; and extends southwards about eight miles, where it is bounded by the parishes of Langton, Greenlaw, and Westruther. On the east it is bounded by the parishes of Dunse and Abbey St Bathans; and it extends westward in one part about twelve miles, where it is bounded by the parish of Lauder. The parish of Abbey St Bathans cuts off an isolated portion, which belonged to the old parish of Ellim, called Blackerstone. This portion lies about eight miles distant from the parish church, and is about two miles long, and a mile and a-half broad; at

one part, this parish intersects that of Cranshaws. The boundaries of several contiguous parishes in this district are extremely involved.

Topographical Appearances.—The greatest elevation in the parish is Meikle Cese or Sayrs Law, which lies in the line of division between Berwickshire and East Lothian. It is under 1500 feet high. Two conical hills of considerable beauty, the Dirringtons, also lie in this parish. The greater of these, great Dirrington Law, is 1145 feet high.

Mineralogy—Appearances of copper ore were noticed in the former Statistical Account of the parish. Various attempts have been made to work it; but after a recent trial upon a considerable scale, by an English company, it was abandoned; the ore, it is understood, not being sufficiently rich and plentiful to cover the expense of working it. These mining operations were carried on near the spot where the old church of Ellim stood. It is said that there are appearances of a richer vein, not far from this spot, on the opposite side of the river Whitadder, in the lands of Rigfoot, but no attempts have been made to work it.

Botany.—The parish affords a good field for the botanist. Amongst other plants which are to be found here, there are the following: *Arbutus uva-ursi* (Dirrington;) *Melampyrum sylvaticum*, (Banks of Dye;) *Orobis sylvaticus*, *Fumaria claviculata*, *Oscillatoria violacea*, (Flora of Berwick on Tweed, Vol. ii.) and *Jungermannia byssacea* (Dirrington.)

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—There is a farm in the parish called Otterburn. It is not likely that the contest between Douglas and Hotspur took place here; but as the field of that contest has not been determined, and as it could not have been at a very great distance from this parish, the fact of there being a place of the name of Otterburn here, deserves to be stated. That there were several severe contests in this neighbourhood, may well be presumed from its vicinity to the debateable land. Indeed, the name of an adjoining hill, Main, or Man-Slaughter Law, hands down the memory of a bloody conflict, supposed to be that which took place in 1402, between the Earl of Dunbar and Hepburn of Hailes; and a large heap of stones at Byrecleugh, in this parish, 240 feet long, of irregular breadth and height, but where broadest and highest, 75 feet broad and 18 feet high, appears to attest a similar conflict. The stones composing this heap have been carried

to their present place from a crag half a-mile distant. They have received the name of the "mutiny stones;" but there is no authentic account of the occasion which led to their accumulation.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1712, there were 300 examinable persons, which may give a population of 450. When the last Statistical Account was drawn up, there were computed to be 100 families containing 452 individuals. Since the beginning of this century the numbers have been accurately ascertained every ten years as follows: There were in

1801,	94 families, containing 207 males, and 199 females,	Total	406
1811,	90, - - 215, - 229, -		444
1821,	81, - - 191, - 211, -		402
1831,	81, - - 216, - 209, -		425

The families are fewer in number than they used to be, owing to several smaller farms being now thrown into one. The system of large sheep-farms prevails more than it used to do, in consequence of which there is less ground cultivated, and fewer families maintained.

1. Number of families in the parish, as before-stated,	- - -	81
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	- - -	49
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	- - -	16
The average number of children in a family is,	- - -	3½
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	5	
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	10	
3. The number of persons in 1831, under 15 years of age,	- - -	175
upwards of 70,	- - -	15

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The extent of this parish is about thirty-three square miles, or rather more than 21000 acres imperial.

Of this amount there are cultivated, or occasionally in tillage,	- - -	2200
Never cultivated,	- - -	18,800
In undivided common,	- - -	0
Under wood,	- - -	350

It may be doubted whether capital could be profitably employed in cultivating more of the parish than has already been cultivated.

In the vicinity of the village of Longformacus, there is a good deal of planting, especially surrounding the mansion-house of Longformacus, where there are some elm and ash trees of considerable age and height. There are also extensive plantations at the Retreat, on the lands of Blackerstone.

Husbandry.—Barley, oats, turnips, potatoes, rye-grass and clover, are the usual crops cultivated. There are about 450 score of sheep pastured. Of this number there are about 300 score

Cheviot, 100 score black-faced, and 50 score half Leicester. A few horses are bred by the farmers, chiefly for their own use: and a considerable number of calves are reared. The cattle are of the common Berwickshire breed, coarser than those in the lower part of the county.

It is not the practice in this district to take in cows or sheep to graze; when this is occasionally done, the average rent of keeping a milk cow for the year is L. 5, 5s., and a sheep, 5s.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of herds by the year are usually as follows: 10 bolls oats, 3 bolls barley, (or one boll of peas for one of the bolls of barley,) the keep of from 30 to 36 sheep, the keep of a cow, half a boll of potatoes planted, and the carriage of firing. They receive a house, but are obliged to shear for it in harvest, and to keep a servant called a *bondager*. This bondager works for the master when he requires him, at the rate of 10d. a-day, payable to the herd; and he shears at harvest for the house rent for a period, which is often fixed at three weeks endurance,—at which time, food only is allowed.

The wages of hinds are much the same with those of herds; instead of the keep of sheep, L. 8 or L. 9 is paid. They hold their house under the same conditions as the herds. Women-servants receive from L. 4, 10s. to L. 5 for the summer half year, and L. 2 for the winter half. Able-bodied labourers receive 9s. a-week in winter, and from 10s. 6d. to 12s. in summer, according to their skill and activity.

Rent.—The present rental of the parish amounts nearly to L. 4000; about L. 800 of this rental arises from grass parks let for pasture from year to year; the remainder from lands let on lease for various terms, but usually for nineteen years. There are nine heritors, none of whom are resident. Several large farms are led, that is left to the charge of herds or stewards for the tenants,—who live on arable farms in the lower district. John Home Home, Esq. of Longformacus, is the patron and largest heritor of the parish.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The farm-houses and roads and enclosures in this parish are generally in bad repair. The road from Haddington to Coldstream goes through this parish, and also another road from East Lothian to Dunse,—both of which are but indifferently maintained out of the statute-labour money. This money is collected upon twenty ploughs, the estimated number kept, and is totally inadequate to the maintenance of the parish roads. In

consequence of this, the cross roads are left in a wretched state, and thus a formidable bar lies in the way of improvements.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is conveniently enough situated, considering the extreme irregularity of the boundaries of the parish. In this neighbourhood one parish so shoots into another, that the congregations are often found to be composed of the inhabitants of several parishes. The church was built upwards of a century ago. It has been lately repaired, and is in good order. It is seated for 200 persons; the sittings are appropriated to the different properties, so that there are no free sittings; the feuars in the village occupy the sittings which are unemployed, merely through tolerance. The manse was built sixteen years ago. It is three quarters of a mile distant from the church. The glebe consists of fully eleven acres of good land; it is perhaps the best land in the parish, and may be valued at not less than L. 2 an acre. A right of pasturage has been assigned to the minister in place of a glebe for the old parish of Ellim. This right gives the minister the privilege of pasturing forty sheep on the farm adjoining the old church of Ellim. It has of late years, by agreement between the minister and tenant, been commuted into the annual payment of L. 10. The stipend was modified for crop 1831 at fifteen chalders, half meal and half barley, converted at the highest fiar prices of Berwickshire; and L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

Out of 81 families, 16 are Dissenters, and attend meeting-houses chiefly at Dunse.

The church is usually well attended. The number of communicants is about 135.

A branch association in connection with the Dunse Auxiliary Bible Society was lately established.

Education.—There is one parish school, where the usual branches of education are taught. The schoolmaster's salary is the maximum. He has the legal accommodations. The amount of school fees received by him may be L. 10 a-year. The means of education are accessible to all, and there are none of a proper age who cannot read. The minister meets such children as may be sent by their parents, at the church on Sundays, before and after the usual services, and the number of those who then regularly attend upon his instruction exceeds 30.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The funds provided for the poor are derived from the collections at the church doors, the interest of L. 100 mortified, and, when these fail, from assessments. Owing to the non-

residence of the heritors and of some of the principal tenants, and the non-attendance of others, the collections are small; they may be stated at L. 8 per annum. There are at present two old women who receive regular, and four individuals who receive occasional, charity from the kirk-session. Five shillings a month, with house rent and firing, has been the usual allowance for a pauper receiving regular assistance. The disposition to refrain from seeking parochial relief may still be seen in this parish, but it is fast wearing away.

Inn.—There is an inn in the small village of Longformacus. The people are generally sober, and no injurious effects are perceptible from the existence of this inn.

Fuel.—The fuel of the country, here generally called *eldin*, consists of dried turf, peats, and cuttings from the plantations. Coal is brought from England at considerable expense. When delivered at Longformacus, it costs, at an average, 10d. per cwt. The best peats are got from one of the moors towards the southern part of the parish. In a favourable year, such as 1831, when well dried, they make good firing; but the expense of cutting, winding, drying, and leading, together with the rapidity with which they burn, makes the cost of them little inferior to that of coals.

June 1834.

PARISH OF CRANSHAWS.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. J. H. SIBBALD, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name—Boundaries.—THE name is supposed by some persons to be derived from the *Cranes* or *Hérons*, which were formerly numerous in this district; by others it is alleged that *Cran* in the name of this parish refers to the cranberry, which is a native of our hills and mosses. These derivations, however, are quite conjectural.

The parish is intersected by a part of Longformacus; and the part of it on which the church stands is a five-sided figure or pentagon, measuring nearly two miles in every direction, and consequently giving a surface of about six square miles. It is bounded *generally* by the Whitadder on the north and east, and a part of Longformacus on the south and west. The other part of the parish is an irregular figure, extending more than five miles in length by about two of mean breadth. The small river Dye divides it from Longformacus for four miles on the north side, and gives its margin an undulating form; the same parish encloses it on the east and partly on the south, after which the parish of Westruther completes the southern border, and that of Lauder the western.

Topographical Appearances.—The highest land on this side of the parish is called *Man-Slaughter Law*, and, according to tradition, receives its name from having been the scene of a very serious engagement. There is some reason for believing this report, as some pieces of warlike weapons have been found in the immediate neighbourhood, and a *tumulus*, such as was generally used to commemorate important events, is still remaining upon the north side of it.

Meteorology.—Fogs are here sometimes so dense and so regularly spread over all the lower grounds, both in spring and au-

turn, as to mark a certain elevation over the whole country. The density of this vapour may be imagined from the fact, that a person descending from one of the neighbouring heights is seen from above, as if stepping deeper and deeper into water. So correctly is the surface line marked upon his person, and so complete is the deception, that the spectator is not without some degree of anxiety about his companion, whom he has seen walk over head into the abyss. When such fogs are partial, there is sometimes the appearance of a lake, with one or more streams connected with it.

Hydrography.—This inland parish abounds with perennial springs, and there is one in the neighbourhood which may yet impart health, as a chalybeate to the inhabitants of more wealthy districts. There are only two streams draining this district, the Whitadder and Dye, which unite a little to the south-east of this parish.

Geology and Mineralogy.—There are no rocks of the primitive class, although boulders of granite, sienite, and porphyry are washed down from rocks of conglomerate in the parishes of Stenton and Whittingham. The rocks of the transition class are greywacke and greywacke-slate: and these rocks are the principal ones in the parish. In Cranshaws-hill there is a very fine conglomerated rock, in which are disseminated particles of red iron-ore, from the size of a pea to that of a walnut. The surface of this rock is much broken by the action of the atmosphere and water. Near to it is one of sandstone of the secondary formation, coloured by grains of iron; this stone might be useful in buildings. The yellow ochre issuing from this hill is used by the people in painting the walls of their houses, and completely answers the purpose.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—There are only three landed proprietors, Charles Watson, Esq. of Saughton; the Honourable Charles Stuart; and Duke of Roxburghe. The last (having but a small property in the parish) bears a very trifling proportion of all public burdens.

Parochial Register.—The parochial register begins with 1731. It contains births, deaths, and marriages, and has been regularly kept.

Antiquities.—A sword had been found to the west of the Man-Slaughter-Law a considerable time ago. Upon inquiry I find it was converted into some other instrument at the parish smithy. To the east of the field where it was discovered there is a burrow which probably covers more; and there are two similar collec-

tions of stones in the other half of this parish, which, tradition says, commemorate the death of two twin brothers of the name of Edgar, who both fell while commanding different portions of an army that had mutinied. They are still known by the name of the Twinlaw-cairns. * Cranshaws castle belongs to Charles Watson, Esq. of Saughton; it is an oblong square of forty feet by twenty-four. The walls are forty-five feet high. The battlement on the top is modern; otherwise the date of the building might have been pretty nearly ascertained, as the water conduits are in the form of cannon. Before the union of the two kingdoms, it had been used by the inhabitants on this side of the parish as a place of refuge from the English borderers, as the old castle at Scarlaw (of which very little now remains) had probably been by the inhabitants of the other division.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1754, the population was	-	-	-	214
At the time of last Statistical Account,	-	-	-	164
In 1821,	-	-	-	156
In 1831,	-	-	-	136
In 1833, it does not appear to exceed	-	-	-	100

The decrease appears to have been owing to the junction of farms, and change of system.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	24
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	16
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	4
2. The average number of baptisms recorded yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	-	8
of deaths,	-	-	-	-	1
of marriages,	-	-	-	-	2
3. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	-	41

No nobility or persons of independent fortune reside in this parish.

There are two proprietors in the parish who hold lands to the amount of L. 50 per annum and upwards.

The people generally marry early, and in consequence, we have neither male nor female unmarried above the ages of 50 and 45. They are generally very poor, but contented with their situation and circumstances, frugal, sober and industrious, generally regular in their attendance on religious ordinances, and, I am happy to add, that the form of godliness is observed in most of their families. I have been told that discussions have sometimes taken place on a Sabbath morning as to who should enjoy the privilege of going to church.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—There are at present seven

* See Account of Westruther.

pairs of work-horses in the parish. The number of acres, therefore, under tillage, allowing fifty acres to each plough, will be 350, which, considering the nature of the land and climate, can scarcely be expected to furnish much produce for the market. More had been cultivated at one period, but was allowed to return to its original state, with the exception of a few patches, which are turned over occasionally, to renew the pasture. It is very doubtful whether the farmer would gain by keeping much more land under the plough, while the market prices are so low, all the roads in such a neglected state, and the distances to places of sale so great.

Live-Stock.—The sheep are of the Cheviot breed, and amount to about 4400 in number; and the black-cattle a mixture of several kinds, in number from 70 to 80, average price L. 6, 10s. at two years' old.

Rate of Wages.—Wages of men and women hired by the half year are about L. 7 per annum. Those of hinds or farm-servants average L. 28 per annum, inclusive of the value upon their cow's grass, meal and potatoes. The practice of giving these servants grass for so many sheep is now abandoned, and L. 3 or L. 4 given in lieu of it.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce cannot be exactly ascertained; but the following statement (not including pasture) must be pretty near the truth.

Oats, barley and pease, 800 bolls at the Lammermoor fair prices,	L. 770	9	4½
Turnip, 70 acres at L. 2 per acre,	-	140	0 0
Potatoes, 10 acres, allowing 20 bolls per acre, at 6s. per boll,	-	60	0 0
Sown grass 2000 stone at 6d. per stone,	-	50	0 0
Natural hay 5000 stones at 3d. per stone,	-	62	10 0
		<hr/> L. 1082 19 4½	

Manufactures.—It may be mentioned under this head, that two ingenious young men of the name of Bertram, both blacksmiths, have lately invented an instrument, by which their labour in forming hoops for carriage wheels of every diameter is wonderfully abridged, and the fuel generally used completely saved. They can produce twelve cart hoops in this way in one hour, without the use of fire, except in joining the two points, and without the use of the hammer at any other part of the process. This instrument must soon come into general use: indeed, drawings of it have been sought, and one of these little machines is already at work at Innerwick in East Lothian. It is intended to make an effort to secure a patent for these young men, who, for character and genius, are highly deserving of patronage.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the parish church is rather inconvenient for the one-half of the parishioners, being about five miles from several of their houses, and yet it would be impossible to find a site for it equidistant from the two inhabited portions of this parish, without removing it out of the parish entirely, it being intersected, as already stated, by a part of Longformacus parish. It was built in 1789, and is probably in a worse state of repair than any Established church in the south of Scotland. The present manse was built in 1811, and wants the necessary accommodation, having only one room on the ground-floor. Both it and the church are about to undergo repairs at present, and do certainly require them, being in a much worse state than most hunting stables in the county. The church accommodates 120 persons. The extent of the glebe is fifteen acres, and when in good order might be let at L. 1, 10s. per acre. The stipend is upon the Government bounty list, and is all paid in money, amounting to L. 150, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

Every family in this parish attends the Established church. The number of hearers may be about 100 or upwards. They are regular in their attendance, and very attentive during divine service. The number of communicants (inclusive of those from other parishes) varies from 80 to 100.

There is a Bible Society in this parish, but contributions have not been pressed for a few years in consequence of the circumstances of the district. When first instituted, the annual receipts were about L. 15 per annum, but the decrease was rapid, as was to be expected among such a poor population. Occasional collections are made at the church for the Scottish Missionary Society, the General Assembly schools, and the Edinburgh Infirmary, the whole amount obtained for these institutions being under L. 5 per annum.

Education.—We have no school but the parochial, in which all the usual branches of education are taught. The salary is the maximum, and the school fees amount to L. 10 per annum. The expense of education is from 10s. to 16s. per annum, according to the respective attainments of the scholars. The schoolmaster's house is a good one of two stories, and the garden of the legal extent. There is not an individual in the parish who has reached the age of 15 but can both read and write.

Library.—We have a parochial library under the patronage of

George Buchan, Esq. of Kelloe, who very generously presented to it L. 5. The number of volumes at present amounts to 200, and a large addition is expected when our own heritors shall favour us with their subscriptions.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There are at present three persons all aged and infirm, receiving parochial aid, and the sum given to each is 1s. 6d. per week. The minister proposed to the heritors of this parish several years ago, that the regular assessment for the maintenance of the poor should be dispensed with, and something in the name of donation substituted when the kirk-session should require it. This proposal was thankfully accepted by the heritors, and is still acted upon. For several years the contribution of the heritors in this way has amounted to L. 12 per annum. The average amount of church collections is L. 6 a-year.

Fuel.—The fuel in general use is peat and turf, which may cost about 1s. 6d. per cart, when ready for using, and 1s. more when brought home.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

To improve this parish, a good road is indispensable from three miles to the east of the manse to the head of Whitadder. There is a very level line for the purpose. The materials are at hand throughout that distance, and some miles would be saved to the traveller. Plantations also are much wanted.

July 1834.

PARISH OF ABBEY ST BATHANS.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JOHN WALLACE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE name of this parish has been variously written ; St Boythans, St Bothans, and St Bathans. St Boythans occurs in the more ancient writings. St Bothans was the usual form till the early part of the last century ; and St Bathans, which was then introduced, has continued to be the name ever since. The prefix abbey was first made use of at an earlier period, and was probably employed to distinguish this parish where there was formerly a convent, from that of Gifford, or Yester, in East Lothian, anciently called St Bothans, where there was a collegiate church, but no monastic establishment.

The mean length of the parish of Abbey St Bathans from east to west is about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles, and its mean breadth from north to south about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles ; the whole extent of the surface falls somewhat short of 8 square miles. It is of an irregular figure, and is divided into two portions by a detached part of the parish of Longformacus. It is bounded on the north by Cockburnspath, Oldhamstocks and Innerwick, on the west by Longformacus, on the south by Dunse, and on the east by Coldingham and Buncle. The church and manse, which lie nearly in the centre of the parish, are about fourteen miles southward of Dunbar, and about seven miles northward of Dunse ; their latitude being about $55^{\circ} 52'$ N., and their longitude about $2^{\circ} 23'$ W.

Topographical Appearances.—Though the parish is situated among the Lammermoor hills, none of the more remarkable elevations of that range lie within its bounds. The high grounds rise to a height varying from 300 to 400 feet above the intervening vales, and then spread out into extensive flats. On the sides of the streams which drain the hills are flats or haughs of considerable fertility—the slopes are also in many cases fertile ; but the greater part of the higher grounds is barren and covered with heath.

Hydrography.—The river Whitadder winds in a sinuous course through the parish, its general direction being from west to east. It is here a beautiful stream, upwards of eighty feet in breadth. Before it enters the parish, it has run about twelve miles from its source, and has received the river Dye, with many smaller streams. In its progress through the parish it receives a number of streamlets from the dells and vales that occur among the hills; but its two principal tributaries are the Monynut and the Ware, flowing in a south-easterly direction.

Mineralogy.—Veins of copper-ore having been discovered on the estate of St Bathans, an English mining company obtained right by lease in the year 1828 to work this mineral; but after driving in a single mine, they abandoned the undertaking.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—Small as this parish now is, it consisted before the Reformation of two parishes. These were St Bathans and Strafontane. We will trace the history of each separately.

With regard to St Bathans, it appears that soon after the introduction of Christianity into this part of the country, (an event which took place in the early part of the seventh century,) a church was founded here, and dedicated to the saint whose name the parish now bears.* Like that of Coldingham, it was, during the

* Chalmers' Caledonia, Vol. ii. p. 212, 344.—There is reason to believe that this holy person was St Baithen, cousin to the celebrated St Columba, and his successor as Abbot of Iona. St Baithen employed much of his time in propagating the doctrines of Christianity in the country now called Scotland, and in establishing churches there. He died on 9th June 598.

That it may be seen on what grounds the writer of this article conjectures that this parish derived its name from St Baithen, he shall add a short explanation. There are four saints whose names bear a close resemblance to that of this parish. These are the following: 1st, St Bothan. According to Chalmers, St Bothan was the patron of this parish, (Caledonia, Vol. ii. p. 344.) But this saint was a bishop of Dunblane, (Camerarius de pietate Scotorum,) and must therefore have lived after the erection of that bishopric by David I. The church of St Bathans, however, was dedicated to its saint many centuries before. If it be said that St Bothan, who is not mentioned in Keith's Catalogue of the Bishops, may have been a member of the convent of Culdees, which was established at Dunblane before the erection of the bishopric, this circumstance would not increase the probability of his being the patron saint of this parish, because in that case he must have flourished subsequent to the time of St Blaan, from whom Dunblane derived its name; and, as St Blaan lived in the reign of Kenneth III. (Keith's Catalogue,) St Bothan could not have been the person to whom the church of St Bathans was dedicated some ages before. 2d, St Bathan. He is said to have been a bishop or teacher and confessor throughout the whole of Scotland, but chiefly in Orkney and Shetland, (Camerarius.) It is not likely that a church would be dedicated to him in the Saxon kingdom of Northumberland, in which kingdom this parish was then situated. Camerarius confounds this saint with the following: 3d, St Baithan. He was one of the persons to whom a celebrated letter from Pope John was addressed in 640, preserved in Bede. He was Bishop of Clonmaenais in Ireland, (Jameson's History of the Culdees, p. 104,) and it is not therefore probable that he was the saint to whom the church of St Bathans was dedicated.

incursions of the Danes, destroyed more than once by fire; a calamity to which such edifices were in those days peculiarly liable from their having been constructed of wood. In a subsequent age it became a living of considerable value,* but at the Reformation its revenues were reduced to a very small amount.

At the church of St Bathans a convent of Cistercian nuns, with the title of a Priory, was founded between the years 1184 and 1200 by Ada, daughter to King William the Lion, and wife to Patrick Earl of Dunbar. From this lady and her husband, and from subsequent benefactors, the institution received various grants in lands and revenues, and among other benefactions the patronage of the church, a grant which enabled the nuns, by appointing a vicar, to appropriate to themselves the large revenues of the living. The property thus acquired consisted of a considerable estate in the immediate neighbourhood of the convent, various detached subjects lying in the counties of East Lothian and Berwick, and a large revenue in tithes.† About the time of the Reformation the lands were alienated by the prioress and nuns, principally to Lord Home, for payment of annual feu-duties; and, on the final suppression of monasteries, the benefice itself was gifted to Elizabeth Home, a relative of the same nobleman, and wife to Adam Cuming, Commendator of Beaulieu; and, by a transaction with her, and through the favour of the crown, it was subsequently acquired by David, son to Patrick Lindsay, Bishop of Ross, afterwards Archbishop of Glasgow, who seems to have disposed of it in parcels to various individuals. Elizabeth Home took the title of Prioress, and David Lindsay that of Prior of St Bathans.‡

Besides the church and priory of St Bathans, a chapel was founded in this parish, but by whom, or at what time, does not appear.

4th, St Baithen. Besides the circumstance that none of his competitors seem to have any claim, there are various reasons for supposing that St Baithen is entitled to be considered as the patron saint of this parish. 1. About the time at which the church was founded, a constant intercourse subsisted between this part of the country and Iona, where St Baithen was abbot. 2. Like his relation, St Columba, St Baithen preached in this part of the country; and, 3. the name of this saint and the most ancient name of this parish (St Boythan) are very similar in sound.

* See *Taxatio* in Chalmers' *Caledonia*, ii. 322.

† The estate in the neighbourhood of the convent consisted of the farms of St Bathans, Frampath, and Hardhissells, with their corn and waulk-mills, Blackerston, and the half of Quixwood. The other properties of the priory were situated in Stenton, Pople, Belhaven, Cockburnspath, Butterdean, Billie, Dunse, Ninewar, Kimmergham, and Edinburgh; and its tithes consisted of those of Waughton and Craquha, of the town and mains of Cockburnspath and their steadings, including Fulfordlees and the two Hoprigs, the two Shiells, Rauchenside and Cloves, and those of the farms belonging to the convent itself.—(Title-deeds of the Benefice.)

‡ See Title-Deeds.

The history of the parish of Strafontane commences in the reign of David II., in which reign an hospital was founded here; but the name of the founder is forgotten. This house seems at one time to have been dependent on the abbey of Alnwick. It was in 1437 transferred by the abbot of that place to the monastery of Dryburgh; * and it came ultimately into the possession of the collegiate church of Dunglass, and gave a title to one of the prebends. Its original destination as an hospital was changed to that of a church; but public worship ceased to be performed in it at the Reformation. Its cure was then united to that of St Bathans. †

Eminent Men.—As a remarkable person connected with this parish, David Hume of Godscroft may be mentioned. This accomplished gentleman, who was the son of Sir David Hume of Wedderburn, held a conspicuous place among the miscellaneous writers of the seventeenth century, and was one of the early and most intimate friends of the celebrated Andrew Melville. He was extensively acquainted with the ancient and modern languages, theology, politics, and history; and among those who at that period were distinguished for their skill in the composition of Latin poetry, which was then enthusiastically cultivated, there were few who showed a mind more deeply imbued with its genuine spirit. ‡

Antiquities.—The church of St Bathans is a very ancient building. The north and east walls still bear marks of antiquity. In

* Chalmers' Caledonia, ii. 348.

† Report to Commission of Teinds preserved in Register House, Edinburgh.

‡ The works of David Hume of Godscroft consist of, (1.) Latin Poems, several of which were printed in a separate form, and were collected and published under the title "*Poemata Omnia, &c.*" at Paris, 1639. 8vo.—(2.) *Tractatus de Unione Insulæ Britannicæ*. Lond. 1605. 4to. And reprinted at the end of the "*Poemata*" 1639.—(3.) *Camdenæ, sive Vindiciæ Buchanani contra Camdenum*. M.S. 4to.—(4.) *History of the House of Douglas and Angus*. Edinburgh, 1743. 2 vols. 12mo.

N. B.—There was a David Hume, minister of one of the Protestant churches abroad, the author of one or two works in French and Latin, which have been usually attributed to David Hume of Godscroft. Whether he was any relation does not certainly appear.

James Hume, doctor of medicine, son of David Hume of Godscroft, was the author of the following works:—(1.) *Pataleonis Vaticinia Satyra ad Dom. Rob. Kerum, &c. Rothemagi*, 1633. 18mo.—(2.) *Traité de la Trigonometrie, &c.* Paris, 1636. small 8vo.—(3.) *Algebre de François Viete d'une Methode Nouvelle, par Jacques Hume, Escuyer*. Paris, 1636. 8vo.—(4.) Latin Poems, &c. subjoined to the volume "*Poemata, &c.*" of his father, David Hume of Godscroft, printed at Paris 1639. 8vo. James Hume appears to have been editor of the volume.—(5.) *Methode Universelle pour faire et descrire toutes sortes des Quadrans et d'Horiloges, avec Nouvelle Demonstratione fort belle et Curieuse*. Paris, 1640. 8vo.

Anna Hume, daughter of David Hume of Godscroft. She published in English verse, "*The Triumphs of Love—Chastity—Death*. Translated out of Petrarch by Mrs Anna Hume." Edinburgh, 1644. Small 8vo.

the former is to be seen an arched door, now built up, which communicated with the residence of the nuns. The ancient Gothic architecture of the east window is still in some measure preserved; and in the wall near the altar was a stone font with a leaden pipe in the bottom. The building was formerly large, measuring 58 feet by 26; but about the end of last century it was greatly contracted by the removal of the west wall to a position nearer the centre.

Adjoining the church, and between it and the Whitadder, the remains of the priory were visible a few years ago, but they have now entirely disappeared,—the stones having been carried away for various purposes. From the vestiges, however, which could then be traced, the buildings seem to have been of considerable extent. The house was supplied with water from a spring in the rising ground to the south by means of leaden pipes, parts of which have at different times been dug up. To the south and east of the church lay the gardens of the priory, thence called the precincts yards, and round the whole was a walk composed of three tiers of stones. On the east side of these gardens was another walk of considerable breadth, bearing the name of the Bishop's Loan.

At some distance east from the church, in a woody nook, issues a spring named St Bathans's well, which, according to the superstition of ancient times, had the power of healing diseases; and which still, as is the belief in the neighbourhood, neither fogs nor freezes, and even prevents a mill-lead into which it flows from being locked up with ice in the winter.

Farther east, and about a quarter of a mile from the church, were to be seen some years ago the foundations of the chapel, and of a wall enclosing a small space around it. This space bore no marks of having been used as a place of interment. These foundations have now been removed on account of the obstruction they presented to the operations of agriculture, but the field that contained them is still called *Chapel-field*.

Like most of the other ancient buildings in the district, the remains of the church of Strafонтane, which was situated about a mile west of St Bathans, on the south side of the Monynut, have disappeared before the encroachments of the plough. It is, however, but a few years since the foundations of this church were extant, with the mouldering tombstones around it; and it is said that

within a century, (*i. e.* that is since 1730,) burials have taken place here.

It is a favourite article of belief in this quarter, that a subterranean passage exists leading from the nunnery of St Bathans, below the Whitadder, to the church of Strafontane, by which the nuns went, unseen, to be confessed by the clergy there.

III.—POPULATION.

The parish is thinly inhabited, the whole population by the census of 1831 amounting to no more than 121 souls, of whom 66 are males, and 55 females. As compared with the number of inhabitants in 1821, there is a decrease of 29 souls in the population; but this diminution is accounted for by the circumstance of young unmarried men being preferred to married men as servants, by some of the tenants who now occupy the farms. It appears, however, that the population of this parish, though subject to temporary fluctuation, has gradually decreased in numbers for two centuries past. This seems chiefly to have arisen from the enlargement of farms, two or three being now united into one. Thus the farm of Abbey St Bathans consists of lands which, till within these last hundred years, were divided into three separate farms, *viz.* St Bathans, Frampath, and Hardhissells; and besides a corn-mill, there was a waulk-mill on the same estate, till within these fifty years.

There is in the parish one resident proprietor of land of the yearly value of about L. 50. The number of unmarried men upwards of fifty years of age is 4, and of unmarried women upwards of forty-five, 3.

The whole number of houses in the parish is 29, of which 23 are inhabited; and the number of families also 23.

The inhabitants are in general sober, frugal, and industrious in their habits, and are contented with their situation and circumstances, which are such as to afford them, in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The parish consists of six farms, containing in all about 5000 acres of land. Of this surface about 2600 acres are hill pasture, never cultivated; about 100 acres are covered with wood; and the remainder, about 2300 acres, are arable.

Husbandry.—The lands, like other parts of Lammermoor, are in general more adapted to the breeding of cattle and sheep than to the raising of corn; but on the several farms there is a consider-

able part of the grounds under cultivation, and different kinds of grain, particularly early oats and barley, are produced, little inferior in quality to those raised in the lower parts of Berwickshire. The five break rotation of crops is generally employed, namely, turnips, barley, grass, and oats, the grass being allowed to lie for two years; but a crop of pease is sometimes introduced, in which case the grass is allowed to lie for only one year.

The chief object, however, -that the skilful farmer has in view in making use of the plough, is not so much the immediate return from the corn that he raises, as the amelioration of the pasture for his cattle and sheep, by sowing his fields with artificial grass seeds, particularly rye-grass and white clover, which thrive well on all the dry grounds that have been improved with lime, and also the procuring of hay, turnips, and straw, as food and litter for his stock during the winter. This method of husbandry enables the farmer not only to keep a much greater quantity of stock, but also greatly to improve the breed both of his cattle and sheep.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of grazing on out-field pasture is at the rate of from 25s. to 35s. per ox or cow, and at the rate of about 3s. per ewe or full-grown sheep pastured for the year. But the summer pasture of a cow, if she is grazed on sown grass, is at least L. 3.

The expense of furnishing a pair of horses with harness, &c. to fit them for draught in the cart and plough, is about L. 10. The smith work necessary to keep a plough in repair, and a pair of horses properly shod, costs about L. 3.

Price of Labour.—The wages of male servants who get their board in the house are about L. 8 a-year; of female servants about L. 5 for the summer half year, (field labour being then required,) and from L. 1, 10s. to L. 2 for the winter half year. Servants who have families and keep a house are paid in grain, have a cow grazed, and other perquisites, which altogether amount to about L. 25 yearly. The wages of a day-labourer are about 1s. 8d. or 2s. a-day in summer, and about 1s. 6d. in winter. In hay time and harvest they are considerably more.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The breeds of sheep commonly kept on the farms are the black-faced and the Cheviot, but chiefly the latter; and to improve the stock, the black-faced and Cheviot ewe is often crossed with the Leicester tup.

Improvements.—On one farm in the parish the present tenant has, in the space of six years, improved, out of heath, upwards of

100 acres of land, at the expense of about L. 5 per acre. The advantage derived from the improvement of the pasture is found to afford a sufficient return upon the capital thus employed.

Surface draining is found to be a great improvement on the stock farms in Lammermoor, and has been carried to a considerable extent. By cutting a trench about 24 inches wide and 14 inches deep in a proper direction, the water is allowed to escape from the surface of boggy land; and instead of the rushes, &c. produced in swampy situations, there rises a natural grass mixed with white clover.

Great advantage would result to the tenant from more accommodation in the way of houses for cattle, &c. than is at present found on some of the farms; and generally from more extensive enclosing; strips of plantation judiciously-situated for shelter would also be very conducive to his interest.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish may be estimated as follows:

Average produce of grain of all kinds, about 1200 quarters, at the average price of 22s. per quarter,		L. 1320	0	0
Potatoes and turnips, about 130 acres, at the average price of L. 4, 10s. per acre,		585	0	0
Pasture, with straw and hay, cut principally to be consumed on the farms,		650	0	0
Total,		L. 2555	0	0

The yearly value of raw produce may be assumed, therefore, as between L. 2000 and L. 3000 Sterling. In point of soil and climate, this parish is perhaps preferable to any other part of Lammermoor, and on this account the returns from corn, turnips, and pasture, may be taken somewhat above the average for the hill district.

The leases of the several farms are for nineteen years, and do not seem to present any obstacle to improvement.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The parish roads are kept in tolerably good repair, though their occasional steepness is felt an inconvenience.

There is, properly speaking, no village in the parish; but in a delightful little vale through which the Whitadder glides, lie the farm-house and steading of Abbey St Bathans with its adjoining smithy; a neat cottage, a corn-mill, the decent parish church, the manse which, topping a little eminence, is embosomed among trees, and the school-house; so that there are here to be seen within a small space a cluster of objects connected with the improve-

ment and well-being of man. The interest awakened by these objects is at the same time heightened by the natural scenery amidst which they occur. *

A substantial foot bridge has lately been erected over the Whitadder, which is a great convenience to the neighbourhood, a boat having been formerly the only means of crossing the stream. To the eye of the traveller, whose way lies through this romantic spot, nothing can be more striking than the contrast between it and the barren heaths, which on one side or other he must pass to reach it.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated conveniently for the population, its distance from the remotest part of the parish not exceeding two miles. It is at present in a good state of repair, and affords accommodation for 140 persons. The seats are apportioned to the several heritors according to their valued rents, and are occupied by the tenants and their servants.

The manse was built in 1822. The extent of the glebe is about fourteen acres of arable land, worth about L. 1 per acre yearly rent. The stipend is one of those augmented by Government to L. 150, besides an allowance of L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. The sum received annually from the Exchequer is L. 93, 16s. 4d. As the larger part of the stipend, namely, L. 137, 11s. 5d., is payable in money, the whole amount from year to year is not much affected by the variation in the fiars.

With the exception of four or five families, the inhabitants attend the Established church. But besides the parishioners, a number of individuals from the outskirts of the surrounding parishes find it more convenient to attend public worship at this place than at their several parish churches, on account of the distance. From this cause, not only are the numbers increased of those who attend the ordinary service of the Sabbath, but also the number of communicants exceeds what the parish itself would naturally furnish, the number being usually above eighty. There is no dissenting meeting-house or chapel within the bounds of the parish.

* Along each side of the Whitadder, a fertile haugh stretches for upwards of a quarter of a mile; beyond which the hills that wall in the valley rise on all sides, with considerable steepness. The ground on the north side of the vale rises abruptly from the haugh, and presents a bank finely covered with natural wood. The slope which forms the south side of the vale is cultivated to a considerable height, and portions of it are planted with larch and Scotch fir, intermingled with the elm, the oak, and the ash; but still rising higher as it recedes, it at last presents nothing but its natural covering of heath. At each end of the valley, besides the opening by which it receives and transmits the Whitadder, there opens a beautiful dell from north-westward, with its appropriate brook. These romantic objects, joined with its attractions connected with human life, render this vale, although sequestered, a cheerful and pleasant habitation.

Education.—The parish school, which is the only place of education in the parish, is situated at a convenient distance from the several farm-steadings. The outskirts of the surrounding parishes also furnish some scholars. All the usual branches of instruction are taught at the following rates: Reading, 2s. per quarter; reading and writing, 3s per do.; reading, writing, and arithmetic, 4s 6d. per do.; Latin and Greek languages, 7s. per quarter; mathematics, 7s. 6d. per do. The salary of the schoolmaster (including a mortification) is L. 30 yearly; and the amount of the school fees may be about L. 10 more.

The people in general appear to be sufficiently alive to the benefits of education, but the progress of the children at school is much impeded during the summer and autumn, by their being so frequently called out to work in the fields.

Friendly Society.—The only friendly society that exists in the parish is one instituted in the year 1828, and having for its object the procuring of medical assistance for the members and their families in case of sickness. Each member pays a small sum quarterly into the hands of the treasurer, and thus a fund is formed, out of which, when sickness occurs, the expense of calling in a medical practitioner and of procuring medicines is defrayed. There are at present forty-three members; and the amount of disbursements made by the treasurer during the four years that the society has existed is about L. 15.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There are at present only two individuals who receive parochial aid; the one a widow advanced in years, the other a woman of middle age. The annual contributions for their relief amount to L. 7, 18s., of which sum about L. 3 arise from church collections; the remainder is raised by legal assessment.

It is to be regretted that the poor in this neighbourhood, so far from regarding it as degrading to receive parochial aid, apply for it without hesitation, and consider it as a legal provision made for them, to which they have as good a title as to the wages of labour.

Fuel.—The fuel commonly used in the parish is turf and peat, but more generally the former. Coals cannot be obtained for less than 20s. per ton, on account of the distance from which they must be brought.

Inns.—There is no alehouse in the parish, but there is one in the immediate neighbourhood. It does not appear, however, that any bad effects on the morals of the inhabitants arise from this cause.

July 1834.

BUNKLE AND PRESTON.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. ARCHIBALD M'CONECHY, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE name of this parish has at different times been variously written. The more ancient orthography was Bonkile on Bonkle, which has for more than half a century been changed into Bunkle or Buncle. Some derive the name *Bunkle* from the Latin *bona cella*, while others refer it to the Celtic origin, *bon* or *bun* signifying the foot or base, and *cell* or *kill*, a cell or chapel; which etymology is quite descriptive of the place. The word Preston, the name of the annexed parish, is supposed by some to come from the Saxon, signifying the town of the priests; by others from the Gaelic *Preas*, signifying a thicket or copsewood, and *tun*, a town or farm.

The form of this united parish is very irregular. The greatest distance between the farthest points may be 5 or 6 miles; yet the mean length is only $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and the mean breadth $3\frac{1}{4}$. It is bounded on the N. and E. by Abbey St Bathans and Coldingham; on the S. E. by Chirnside; on the S. and W. by the river Whitadder, which separates it from Edrom and Dunse. This beautiful river, abounding with salmon and trout, is often visited by the angler.

Topographical Appearances.—The lower district of the parish is nearly level, gently inclining, with small undulations, to the south-east. The Lammermoor hills traverse the northern division,—the southern ridge of which, called Bunkle Edge, is more than 700 feet above the level of the sea, but scarcely the half of that height above its own base. These hills commence at St Abbs' Head, in the parish of Coldingham, and extend in a westerly direction through the whole of Berwickshire, occasionally assuming in their progress a grand and picturesque appearance.

Meteorology.—The atmosphere in this neighbourhood is generally clear and salubrious, though sometimes, especially in spring and autumn, subject to a thick haze or mist, which always happens

with an easterly wind, and continues for several days together. This watery vapour, floating in the atmosphere, appears to come from the sea, and is probably occasioned by exhalation from that element,—being carried by easterly winds over the adjacent land, and gradually falling in the form of dense mists.

Geology.—In this parish three distinct rock formations may be traced. These are the transition rocks, the old red and the new red sandstone formations. The first of these forms the northern hilly boundary of the parish, consisting of greywacke and greywacke-slate, with occasionally subordinate beds and dikes of trap. The strata of the greywacke and its accompanying slate appear in general to have a direction from N. E. to S. W. as may be seen at the cleugh above Preston. Resting on this formation we meet with the old red sandstone, which seems to occupy the space between the heights and the Whitadder,—the western boundary from Preston-bridge to Hoardweel. This formation is seen most distinctly on the western side of Stenshiel-hill, opposite to Cockburn mill, lying in successive strata, in general very coarse-grained or conglomerate. The great mass of Stenshiel-hill is itself a fine-grained granite, or sienitic greenstone, as some have chosen to call it. It is perfectly unstratified, enveloped at its base by the red sandstone, and seems to be subordinate to the old red sandstone. Looking, therefore, at the different inclination of the sandstone strata on each side of this mountain-mass of granite, the conclusion can hardly be avoided, that this vast granitic mass has, at a later period, and in a fluid state, pushed through these previously existing strata of old red sandstone, and occupied its present position.

Following the course of the river from this to Preston bridge, very few opportunities are afforded of examining the fundamental rocks, which, however, appear evidently to be of the same old red sandstone, the earliest of the secondary rocks. In several different places, trap-dikes are seen crossing the bed of the river. One of these is a great dike of basalt, half a mile above the bridge, in imperfect columnar masses; a little below is another of a kind of coarse greenstone; a third occurs at Preston-bridge, and is the rock on which the south end of the bridge is built. A very little below this, and apparently resting on the old red sandstone, the new red or variegated sandstone formation, which is the characterizing one along the course of the Whitadder, from this to its junction with the Tweed, seems to commence. The principal rocks of this formation, as seen in this parish, and through the lower di-

vision of the county are beds of sandstone-slate, of indurated marl, gypsum, and conglomerate. These occur irregularly, frequently alternating with each other. Along both sides of the river, wherever these strata are exposed to the action of the weather, we meet with abundance of clay marl, evidently occasioned by the decomposition of the beds of indurated marl and soft sandstone, which latter frequently contain a considerable portion of calcareous matter; and, therefore, as a natural consequence, the soil on the lower lands, particularly along the course of the river, is rich and loamy, while on the higher grounds it is generally light and poor.

There is a copper mine, on the property of Lord Douglas, at the farm of Hoardweel, close by the river. About sixty years ago it was worked by an English company to a considerable extent. As the ore was at first rich, the work was for some years carried on with advantage; but the vein afterwards ceasing to yield a sufficient quantity of ore, it was given up. In 1825, however, the work was again resumed by another company, likewise from England, and though for several months it was prosecuted with apparent success, it was a second time abandoned without any reason being assigned for such a step.

Botany.—Bunkle wood affords considerable scope for the botanist. It appears especially rich in cryptogamic plants. Among the rarer kinds observed in it, we may notice the *Listera cordata*, *Trollius Europæus* (globe-flower,) and a variety of the *Lonicera*, (honey-suckle,) with the leaves very deeply cut towards the extremities,—a variety, we presume, hitherto unnoticed by botanists.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—Two individuals, distinguished in literature and science, belonged to this parish. Dr James Hutton, author of a Theory of the Earth, was born at Edinburgh in 1726. He was bred to medicine, but afterwards turning his attention to agriculture, he came to reside in this parish on his small estate of Slighshouses, and was the first who introduced the improved mode of husbandry into this part of the country. To acquire a competent knowledge of this science, he went to Norfolk, where he staid for some time; and when he returned in 1754, he brought with him a ploughman from that county, whom he employed in improving his own property, and thus set the first example of good farming which had been seen in this district.*

* His celebrated Theory of the Earth might have been more worthy of notice, had he not seemed too much to overlook the agency and providence of the Deity, by

In this parish also was born, in the year 1735, the celebrated medical theorist, Dr John Browne, author of the system called from him the Brunonian system. Of the merits of this extraordinary individual as an author and philosopher, it is not for us to speak. It seems to be agreed that his temper led him rather to aspire to the honour of an inventor in his science, at the risk of incurring the imputation of dogmatism, than to be content with the solid but slower praise which is the reward of the severe observer and interpreter of nature. But, however this be, enough of merit will still be his, in having stirred the depths of speculation at a time when the spirit of inquiry was not so prevalent as at present; and, whether his doctrines have stood or fallen, they excited an intense interest in their day, and have no doubt still their influence in the present state of medical knowledge.

Land-owners.—There are nine proprietors of land in this parish.

Baronies of Bunkle and Preston.—The ancient baronies of Bunkle and Preston, comprehending 4774 acres of arable land, 1600 of moor or heath, and 350 of wood, which are more than two-thirds of the whole parish, belong to the noble family of Douglas. As far back as can be traced from ancient records, the former of these manors was possessed by Sir Alexander de Bonkle, and appears to have been transferred from him in 1288 to Sir John Stewart, second son of Alexander, the Steward of Scotland, by his marrying the only child and heiress of said Sir Alexander de Bonkle. From Sir John Stewart it passed likewise by an heiress to a different branch of the Stewarts, whose grandson was created Earl of Angus and Lord de Bonkle; and a grand-daughter of this Earl, by marrying William Earl of Douglas, carried the property from the race of the Stewarts to the family of Douglas, with whom it remains. It may not be improper to notice, that one of the descendants of this ancient family of Stewart, having married the sister of King Robert Bruce, the son of this marriage, in right of his mother, the male line of Bruce being extinct, ascended the Scottish throne in 1371. This was Robert the Second, and first of the Stewarts. Of the ancient castle of Bunkle, once the residence of the Stewarts, only small vestiges remain. It seems to have been a place of considerable strength, surrounded with a moat, which is now greatly filled up. The estate of Blenerne, containing 960 arable acres, and 45 of wood, among which are some very aged trees, belongs referring entirely to the operation of second causes the continual tendency to decay and the sources of renovation, which he imagined he discovered in the mundane system.

to the Rev. Edward Sandys Lumsdaine. This beautiful property, lying along the course of the river, has been in the possession of the family of Lumsdaine for many centuries. It still shows the ruins of an ancient castle, near the present mansion-house.

The lands of Billie, measuring 900 arable acres, and 20 of wood, are the property of William Forman Home, Esq. of Billie and Paxton, on which are the ruins of an old castle. The other properties in this parish are of small extent.

Antiquities.—Along the southern verge of the Lammermoor-hills, immediately above the ruins of the old castle, are vestiges of several ancient encampments, at short distances from each other, forming a line along the southern verge of the hill, of three or four miles extent from east to west. These camps are for the most part of a circular form, each enclosing about two acres of ground. Of their antiquity or origin, tradition furnishes no account. Their appearance would seem to carry them back to the times of the Picts; to an era at least anterior to the overthrow of their kingdom, in the year of our faith 839. But to whatever period their origin may be assigned, it appears sufficiently obvious, that they were intended as a barrier against the incursions of a southern foe, as they lie along the verge of the hill, at places where the ascent from the south is more gradual and easy, and therefore requires the strongest defence. One of the most entire of these camps is at the head of the cleugh near Preston. It is surrounded with a line of double ramparts or mounds of earth, with corresponding ditches, even yet ten or twelve feet deep, leaving an opening on the east and west sides, as gateways to the interior.

III.—POPULATION.

	Families.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1790,	131	280	340	622
1801,	133	315	359	674
1811,	148	371	396	767
1821,	149	376	411	787
1831,	142	357	391	740

None of the greater heritors reside at present in the parish. Most of the tenants have neat and commodious houses, maintain a respectable rank in society, and live comfortably. The other inhabitants are chiefly employed in agricultural labour. Their houses consist in general of one apartment only, which, in cases of family affliction, are found to be extremely inconvenient. In other respects, they enjoy a fair share of the comforts of life, and are quite contented with their condition. Living in a district where scarcely any manufactures are carried on, they are not given to poli-

tics, but are sober and industrious in their habits, decent in their external deportment, and respectful to their superiors. Before the practice of draining the marshy lands was introduced, and when the lower orders were neither so well fed nor so comfortably lodged, the ague was prevalent in this part of the country, which malady is now scarcely known. During the last eight or nine years, several old men died in this parish between 80 and 90 years of age, and one last autumn, at the advanced age of 108. This man had been for many years blind, but he was comfortably provided for by the family of Blenerne, in whose service he had long been, and enjoyed good health and good spirits till his death.

There has been only one illegitimate birth in the parish for several years.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—This parish contains 9300 acres, of which 7280 are arable, 1600 moorland or heath, and 420 are covered with wood, chiefly Scotch fir, for the most part recently planted. Of the 7280 acres of arable land, one-half is usually in tillage, the other half in pasture. Of the former kind, two-thirds, or 2426 acres, are on an average in white crop, and the remaining third in potatoes, turnips, and bare fallow.

Improvements.—Though this is principally a grazing district, yet, during the last thirty years, it has undergone great melioration in the soil; in consequence of which high advances have been made in the rents. Some farms which were let for L. 500 during the previous leases are at present as high as L. 1600; others that brought little more than L. 200 bring under the running leases above L. 1000. Under the previous leases, the rental of the whole parish amounted only to L. 3200: it is at present above L. 8000. To this extraordinary advance, which some think is in a higher ratio than in most other districts, several causes may have contributed. The former leases in this barony were mostly for a period of thirty years, and many of the tenants, possessed of considerable capital as well as skill and enterprise, spared no expense in reclaiming waste and barren lands, expecting from such long leases ample and adequate returns. By such speculations, some have improved their circumstances, but others have sustained pecuniary loss, in consequence of the fall on the price of grain since the termination of the war, and of the great advance of the rents, dur-

ing the present leases, induced by the high state of improvement, to which they had brought their farms.

Husbandry.—The general mode of cultivation is by a rotation of crops, consisting of two or three years of pasture, followed by three years of tillage. There are upwards of fifty ploughs in the parish, but the farmers give their chief attention to the rearing of sheep, of which there are on some of the greater farms no less than 1500 or 1600. These are mostly of the Leicester breed, to the improvement of which great attention is paid. Nearly all the waste land that was capable of cultivation has been brought under tillage, and so great had been the quantity of this, that one-half of the land now under the plough has been reclaimed from marshy bogs and barren hills, by draining, liming, and enclosing mostly at the expense of the tenant. The extent of the farms is various, being from 50 to 1300 acres, and the rents from L. 80 to L. 1600. For sometime back no leases have been given for a longer period than nineteen or twenty-one years. The houses on the farms are upheld by the tenants, but at the commencement of a lease, a small sum is usually allowed by the landlord to put them in a state of repair. The fences are good or indifferent, according to the quality and situation of the land; great part of the soil lying on a moorland, is unfavourable to the growth of thorn-hedges, and the dikes, being built of round smooth stones without lime, stand in need of frequent repairs.

The roads are entirely supported by the statute-labour conversion money, and are kept in good repair, the materials for this purpose being easily obtained.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as far as can be ascertained, is as follows:

Grain of all kinds, cultivated for food of man or domestic animals,	L. 10,114	0	0
Potatoes, turnips, hay, also pasture,	-	6051	0 0
		<hr/>	
		L. 16165	0 0

N. B.—The land in white crop, before noticed, is supposed to yield about four quarters of barley or oats per acre, at a medium price, per quarter, of L. 1, 1s. 8d. Beef and mutton are calculated at 5d. per pound, wool at L. 1, 4s. per stone. There is but little wheat raised in the parish, and no more hay than supplies the farmers.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There is no market-town in this pa-

rish ; Dunse, which is five miles distant, is the nearest. • There is no village, nor post-office, nor inn, nor public-house of any kind.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parishes of Bunkle and Preston, originally separate charges, were about 120 years ago united as one cure, and for several years after this union public worship was performed in each alternately. This continued for several years; but both churches coming to need repair, that of Bunkle being most central, was sufficiently fitted up to accommodate the whole population, and the other left in a ruinous state. The church of Bunkle was rebuilt in 1820. It is a plain and neat edifice, built on the old site, at the southern base of the Lammermoor hills, capable of containing 400 sitters, which is more than the half of the entire population. The manse, which is close by the church, was built at three different periods ; the oldest part in 1718. It was enlarged in 1764,—and a farther addition was made in 1801. The situation is somewhat remote, there being no other habitation in the immediate vicinity. The glebe consists of forty-four acres, all arable, worth about L. 40 per annum. The stipend since last augmentation in 1821 is sixteen chalders, half-meal half-barley, payable in money, at the rate of the fiars prices of the county. In this is included nearly L. 28 of money, not affected by the price of grain, one of the heritors having surrendered his teinds. On an average of the last seven years, the stipend has been L. 240 Sterling, besides L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. The living is in the gift of Lord Douglas.

There is no dissenting place of worship in this parish, but a number of families, amounting to about 50, have been for many years in the practice of going to dissenting houses in Dunse. The church is well attended, as by far the greater number, and nearly all the respectable families, come to the parish church. The average number of communicants is about 230.

Education.—The parochial school-house, which is the only one in the parish, was lately rebuilt. It is neat and commodious enough, and has a good garden attached to it. The usual branches are taught ; the salary is the maximum ; and the school fees are moderate. The schoolmaster's income, including the emoluments arising from the offices of session-clerk and heritor's clerk, may amount to upwards of L. 70 per annum.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The collections in the church are inconsiderable, scarcely adequate to pay the church-officers, viz. the precentor, session-clerk, and beadle, &c. They may amount

to L. 6 per annum ; but there is a regular half-yearly assessment for the poor, amounting to upwards of L. 70 yearly ; one half-paid by the heritors, the other by the tenants. The average number of poor on the roll is about 18 or 20 persons ; the allowance to each may average 1s. 6d. per week. There is no other regular fund for support of the poor.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It is to be regretted that little attention, till very lately, has been paid to the planting of wood in the northerly and more hilly parts of the parish. Plantations, however small, are highly ornamental to a country, tend to improve the climate, and afford shelter to the crops as well as to the cattle ; and though at first attended with expense, yet they ultimately become profitable, especially on waste lands, which are fit for nothing else. Of this, the following fact is sufficient evidence. About sixty years ago, upwards of 100 acres of waste and marshy ground, on the estate of Lord Douglas, were planted chiefly with Scotch firs, interspersed with larch and spruce trees. Part of this plantation has been cut down, and the produce has been found to yield a greater profit, after deducting the expenses of planting and making fences around it, than the best land of the same extent. Acting on the same enlightened views, his Lordship has, for some years past, planted to a considerable extent on his property on the Lammermoor, which, at no distant period, will prove highly beneficial to his estate, and ornamental to the neighbourhood.

July 1834.

PARISH OF CHIRNSIDE.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. THOMAS LOGAN, M. D. MINISTER.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries, Extent, &c.—THE boundaries of this parish are now well defined. At the time of the last Statistical Account, written by Dr Anderson, the river Whitadder, which runs on the south and south-west sides of the parish, was but an uncertain boundary, as its course was often changed by floods; but now its course, by means of embankments, is kept uniform and regular. The boundaries are now also distinctly marked by means of a deep ditch that runs between the conterminous lands of this parish and those of Bunkle and Coldingham.

That river forms the boundary of the parish for an extent of about five miles. It is observed to be now subject to floods higher but of shorter duration than formerly,—in consequence, probably, of the draining of the lands in its course, especially of the numerous sheep-drains which have lately been cut on the Lammermoor-hills.

The temperature of the atmosphere is generally mild, the soil dry, and the climate healthy.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—Under this head we have to mention the celebrated historian and philosopher David Hume, who was brought up in this parish from his infancy; and the Rev. Henry Erskine, who was ordained minister soon after the Revolution, succeeding Lawtie, the Episcopal clergyman, and who was the father of Ebenezer and Ralph Erskines, the leaders of the Secession. To the memory of that Henry Erskine, a monument has lately been erected in the churchyard at a considerable expense.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are Sir John Hall, Bart. of Dunglass, the patron; William Hay, Esq. of Dunse Castle; David Hume, Esq. of Ninewells, one of the Barons of the Court of Ex-

* This account has been drawn up by Mr Charles Heriot.

chequer in Scotland; Thomas Begby, Esq. of Mains; and Sir William Grant Keir, of Blackburn.

Parochial Registers.—The registers of this parish commence in the year 1660. They are on the whole regularly kept,—though the Dissenters do not always record the births of their children.

Modern Buildings.—A mansion-house is proposed to be built at Mains next season. It may be mentioned, that since the last Statistical Account eleven farm-houses have been built, all two stories high, and all, except two, covered with slate. A corresponding improvement has taken place in the farm-offices.

III.—POPULATION.

The amount of the population in 1801 was,	-	1147
1811, -	-	1239
1821, -	-	1189
1831, -	-	1248

In 1834 the number has fallen to 1169, whereof 462 reside in the country, and 707 in villages.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	293
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	78
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	70
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	41
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	-	71
3. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	420
betwixt 15 and 30,	-	-	-	314
30 and 50,	-	-	-	250
50 and 70,	-	-	-	145
upwards of 70,	-	-	-	40

It may not be uninteresting to add the following instances of longevity in the parish.

Men.	Number of years old.	Women.	Number of years old.
1	92	1	89
1	90	1	80
1	89	1	89
1	88	1	77
1	85	1	73
1	89	1	77
1	83	1	76

The number of proprietors of land in the parish of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards is 8.

The number of persons in different trades or professions is as follows: merchants, 5; surgeons, 2; midwife, 1; millwrights, 2 masters, 3 journeymen, and 4 apprentices; common wrights, 4 masters, 7 journeymen, and 3 apprentices; smiths, 8; weavers, 10.

During the last three years, there have been two illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of English acres in the parish is computed at 5000 or rather more. There is no

waste land in the parish. The whole parish, indeed, may be said to be in a high state of cultivation. The number of acres planted is about 371.

All the plantations are in a very thriving state,—particularly those on the banks of the Whitadder at Ninewells. They are also well managed. For some years past, the periodical fellings at Whitehall have been considerable,—insomuch that a quantity of oaks of superior quality was cut down there four or five years ago, which must have brought about L. 800 Sterling.

Prices of Timber.—The comparative prices of wood grown here during the late war, and at the present time, are as follows: During the late war, for fir of a superior quality, per cubic foot, from 2s. 6d. to 3s.; oak, 4s. 6d. to 5s.; ash and elm, 3s.;—at present, fir, 1s.; oak, 2s. 6d.; ash and elm, 1s. 6d.

Rent of Land.—It was matter of astonishment to the writer of the last Statistical Account, that the rents of land in this parish should have risen from 3s. to 12s., and from 5s. to L. 1 per acre. How much more astonishing to find that these rents have now risen to L. 1, 16s., L. 2, L. 2, 10s., L. 3, 15s. L. 4, L. 4, 4s., and sometimes even more per acre!

Of late years, the practice has been introduced of letting land upon a corn-rent,—that is, for a certain number of bushels of oats per acre, to be estimated at the average fiars of the five crops immediately preceding. This scheme, however, though apparently an equitable one for both parties, has its difficulties, from the fluctuations in prices, and in the quantities of produce in different years. To remedy this, the parties have agreed upon both a maximum rent, which shall never be surpassed, and a minimum, below which it must never fall.

The rental of the parish is as follows:

Of farm lands,	-	-	-	L. 7601	0	0
Of houses, Ninewells and Whitehall,	-	-	-	80	0	0
Of plantations at Whitehall,	-	-	-	200	0	0
Other plantations,	-	-	-	150	0	0
Of houses in Chirnside,	-	-	-	473	0	0
				<hr/>		
				L. 8504	0	0

Rate of Wages.—Farm-servants, or hinds, are generally hired for one year, from Whitsunday to Whitsunday, and receive ten bolls of oats, three of barley, and one of pease,—also their food in harvest, the keep of a cow, an allowance when they take the corn to market, about 1200 or 1400 yards in length of a drill of twenty-eight inches wide for potatoes, three or four double-horse cart-

loads of coals driven home, a pig kept by themselves, and a piece of land for a garden.

The comparative rate of wages here during the late war and at present are as follows:

During the war, a common labourer per day, 2s. 6d.; wrights and masons, 3s.; shearers in harvest, 2s. 6d. or 3s. with victuals. At present,—a common labourer per day, 1s. 8d.; wrights and masons, 1s. 8d. without victuals; shearers in harvest, 2s. 2d. and their victuals.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The sheep are chiefly of the large Leicester kind, which, when well fed, weigh at two years old from 23 to 25 or 28 lbs. per quarter. The total number of sheep in the parish is generally about 120 scores;—but even these are not sufficient to consume the turnips that are grown in the parish, and sometimes considerable numbers are brought from different parts of the county, and even from Northumberland, for that purpose. The cattle are generally of the short-horned breed.

Implements of Husbandry.—The ploughs generally used are Small's, mostly made of iron, with cast-metal heads and mould-boards. They cost generally L. 3; and their number in the parish is 50,—all drawn by two horses.

Husbandry.—One-half of the land is generally kept in tillage,—the other half in grass. The common rotation is, 1. oats after grass; 2. Turnips or fallow; 3. Wheat, barley, or oats, with grass seeds; 4. Hay or pasture; 5. Pasture. The common manure is farm-yard dung; but of late bone-dust has been used for turnips,—about two quarters of which are commonly applied to an English acre, and sown in drills with a machine. It costs about L. 1 per quarter, and is found highly beneficial on light soils.

Draining has been practised to a great extent; but there has been little or no opportunity for practising irrigation. Considerable sums of money have lately been expended in embankments on the river Whitadder. The duration of leases is generally for nineteen years.

It may be remarked, that while at the time of the last Statistical Account there were only two or three tenants who had changed their possessions for twenty years,—the case is now quite altered,—as there have been twelve or thirteen tenants who have left their possessions before the expiry of their leases.

At the time of the last Statistical Account there were no thrashing-machines in the parish; there are now fourteen, and the barns

necessary for these machines are built in the most substantial manner. The mills which existed at that time have been greatly improved.

There are five gardens in the parish, called sale gardens, well stocked with fruit trees in a good state of bearing. The possessions in the village, which are mostly held of Sir John Hall on leases of ten times three nineteen years, or 570 years, have all small gardens attached to them.

Quarries.—There are several wrought quarries of freestone in the parish,—and it is supposed there are others that might be wrought if necessary.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Oats,	-	l.	3081	0	0
Turnips,	-		2750	0	0
Barley,	-		2730	0	0
Wheat,	-		1755	0	0
Grass,	-		1467	0	0
Grass hay,	-		1000	0	0
Other grass,	-		427	0	0
Gardens,	-		200	0	0
Potatoes,	-		480	0	0
Cows,	-		690	0	0
			<hr/>		
			L. 14,580	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There are in the parish about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles of turnpike road,—all in good repair : so also are the cross roads. An act of Parliament has lately been obtained for building a bridge over the Whitadder at the Bluestone Ford, in the southern part of the parish.

Ecclesiastical State.—No part of the parish lies farther from the church than $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. It is at present in pretty good repair : probably it was built several hundred years ago,—for in one part of the wall, which was evidently a later addition, there is a tablet dated 1572, with the inscription “HELPE THE PVR.” When the body of the church was rebuilt, the western door, of Saxon architecture, with a small part of the wall belonging to the ancient fabric, was with good taste preserved, and the new wall built upon it. There have been many complaints of the insufficiency of the accommodation to the persons belonging to the Establishment.

The manse was built in 1757. It is small, but in good repair.

The extent of the glebe is 8 English acres of excellent land, with half an acre more for the site of houses.

The stipend, as modified on 19th May 1830, is 17 chalders, half-meal, half barley, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

The church is attended by about 200 families; and there are about 400 communicants. The number of families attending the chapels of Dissenters and Seceders is 74.

Education.—There is one parochial and two unendowed schools,—the first attended by about 70 scholars, the others by about 88. The parochial schoolmaster's salary is L. 34: fees probably L. 30, and he has the legal accommodations,—besides 5 per cent. on the poors' funds, for his trouble in collecting and disbursing thereof. He teaches, besides the ordinary branches, Latin, Greek, French, and practical mathematics.

Library—A circulating library, consisting of upwards of 500 volumes, well chosen, was established in the parish about thirty years ago.

Friendly Societies.—Of these there are two: one of which is without capital,—the money being collected when necessary. It was established in June 1808, and consists of 180 members. L. 6 are allowed for the funeral of a member,—and L. 3 for that of his wife. The other society was established in September 1817, and consists of about 60. The quarterly payment to it by each member is 1s. 6d.; and each member, when sick or superannuated, receives a small stated allowance.

It may be proper to add, that, a few years ago, another society was formed, which is now dissolved. It was called the *Cow Society*. Those persons who kept a cow entered into a mutual agreement, to contribute a small sum to assist any member who might lose his cow by disease or accident,—that sum being always under the value of the cow lost. It is proper to state, that the reason of this was to prevent carelessness or wilful injury to the cow.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of enrolled poor is 55; weekly payment to all, L. 5, 5s.; amount of yearly assessment on heritors and tenants, L. 270; monthly cess of the parish, L. 68, 18s. 4d. Scotch. There are no other funds applicable to the poor.

Inns or Alehouses.—Of these there are five in the parish.

Fuel.—The fuel used consists for the most part of coal from Northumberland, with which there is now a ready communication.

July 1834.

PARISH OF AYTON.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. GEORGE TOUGH, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE parish of Ayton, like that of Eyemouth, obviously derives its name from the water of Eye, on whose banks the village of the same name is situated. In the ancient records, it is usually written *Eitun* or *Eiton*; and it is said to be compounded of two Saxon words, *Ei*, a water or stream, and *tun*, a villa or town. The parish is nearly four miles in length, and as many in breadth, and contains probably twelve or thirteen square miles. It is bounded on the north by Eyemouth and Coldingham; on the south by Foulden and Mordington; on the west by Coldingham and Chirnside; and on the east by the sea. In figure, it somewhat resembles the flat side of a battle axe without the handle, having the edge turned towards the south and east.

Topographical Appearances.—On the south there is a beautifully sloping range of high land, tastefully adorned with copses of plantation to the summit. At its highest elevation, it is 660 feet above the level of the sea. The highest point of the sea banks, known by the name of Blaiky's, is 350 feet, precipitous towards the sea, sloping gently towards the land, and irregularly down to the water's edge at Eyemouth. On the northern side of the parish the ground is lower and flatter than on the southern, but still of considerable elevation, and finely undulating in all directions. The whole line of coast for many miles both north and south is splendidly bold and rocky. Its extent within the parish is two miles, forming almost a continued precipice, with innumerable indentations. The stratification of the rocks is distinctly visible, and in all possible inclinations, curvatures, and fantastic shapes, evidently thrown into the wildest confusion by some great convulsion of nature. There are one or two caves which present themselves to the eye of the mariner, accessible only by sea; they were distinguished probably in former times as smuggling concealments, but are now only a shelter for rooks, pigeons, and sea-gulls above, and crabs and lobsters beneath.

The parish line of coast is terminated on the south by a rocky bay accessible from the land by a steep ravine, at the bottom of which stands the romantic fishing village of Burnmouth, and a remarkable rock called the Maiden Stone, isolated at high water. It has probably been separated from the precipice above by the undermining influence of the sea. At the northern extremity of the parish line of coast are two or three small islets, called the Harker rocks, over which the sea washes, and when impelled by strong easterly winds, ascends in beautiful sheets of foam to the height of seventy or a hundred feet.

Hydrography.—There are two principal streams in this parish, the Eye and the Ale. The former, the largest of the two, takes its rise in the Lammermoors, and after flowing in a south-easterly direction for ten or twelve miles, turns nearly at right angles on entering the western side of the parish, traversing the parish in the line of the great central valley in a north-easterly direction, when, for another mile, it skirts the parish in the same direction, separating it from that of Eyemouth, and then falls into the sea. On entering the parish, its velocity is accelerated by the increasing declivity of the land towards the sea, just to such a degree as to convert it into a beautifully interesting stream during the remainder of its course. Its windings and sloping banks render the grounds on either side most desirable for country seats. The scenery of the valley through which it flows, especially when viewed from Millerton-hill on the west, presents a magnificent picture, having Ayton House with all its fine plantations, the picturesque village of Ayton, the manse, and the church, the beautiful new mansion-house and grounds of Peelwalls, all in sight, and various mansions and farm-houses in the distant horizon, with the hill country on the right, and the mighty ocean, forming the back scene towards the north-east. But that view is now seldom enjoyed by the traveller, the western approach to Ayton over Millerton-hill having been changed some years ago.

The quantity of water flowing in the Eye may be estimated by its being able to drive common flour-mills, and even a paper-mill, except in very dry seasons, when there is a scarcity for these purposes. The other stream, the Ale, has its rise in Coldingham parish, takes also a south-easterly course for two or three miles, and at the northern extremity of the parish, continuing in the same direction, it forms the north-eastern boundary, which separates Ayton parish from those of Coldingham and Eyemouth to the extent of two miles, and then it falls into the Eye at a very romantic spot, dis-

tinguished by a remarkable elevation, called the Kip-rock. A very little way above this spot, there is a beautiful haugh or valley, of late years planted, through which the Ale has a serpentine course. This valley must formerly have been the bed of a lake, whose lower barrier has been cut down by the stream. As the opening or exit of the stream from the bed of the lake is narrow, the barrier might again be restored at a small expense. This would not only embellish the scenery in a very high degree, but might even indemnify for the loss of the land, (which here being gravelly, is not very valuable,) by raising the surface of the lake to a sufficient elevation to admit a canal from it to assist the work of the paper-mill. This mill has been injudiciously set down above rather than below the confluence of the streams, and would be greatly profited by this accession of water, of which it stands much in need.

Geology and Mineralogy.—Having already noticed the form and infinitely diversified stratification of the rocks, it is here only necessary to remark that, along the whole range of the coast within the parish, they consist of greywacke and greywacke slate, commencing at the northern extremity, after having been interrupted by an extraordinary mass of conglomerate immediately to the north of Eyemouth bay. This greywacke again terminates, or rather disappears for a little at the southern extremity, being there covered with a superincumbent formation of sandstone. Probably the estate of Greystonlees, comprehending the commencement of this formation of sandstone, owes its name to this peculiarity,—being the only land in the parish where freestone is to be found. It is a little remarkable, that both the northern and southern extremities of the coast within the parish should happen to coincide with the points at which the greywacke rock becomes invisible, as if the parochial division had been regulated by the geological. The same coincidence of limit, however, does not take place to any distance inland, for the sandstone on the south, and the conglomerate on the north, are both of very limited extent. The rocks within the parish wherever quarried partake of the same whinstone quality as those upon the shore, and form excellent materials both for building and road purposes. Just where the sandstone commences at Burnmouth, it has been occasionally quarried, and very lately to a considerable extent, for the erection of a harbour to the fishermen. Lately also, masses of coarse alabaster or gypsum, of a reddish colour, have been dug out of the same banks, by the proprietor of Greystonlees, but it has not as yet been converted into

any important use. There are immense quantities of coarse gravel, boulders and rolled blocks under the soil, in the neighbourhood of the Eye, evidently rounded during ages of exposure to the action of water, and deposited by the strength of the same element. The soil in general is good, and not much, if at all, inferior to any in the county; light and gravelly in the northern, and more loamy in the southern parts of the parish. It does not appear to have been shifted by any process of nature, except by the watery deposits above-mentioned.

Zoology.—All sorts of white fish, equal to any on the eastern coast, which are the best in the kingdom, are caught by the Burnmouth fishermen in great abundance; and occasionally red fish. Cod, ling, and herrings are here cured for distant markets. Lobsters also are occasionally sent hence to London; and lately an attempt has been made to convert even periwinkles, of which there are immense quantities among the rocks, into an article of trade. They are in some request in London with the fishmongers, for making fish sauce.

Botany.—The only rare plants discovered in this parish are, 1st, the *Veronica filiformis*, (discovered by Dr Johnston, author of the Berwick Flora,) an engraving of which forms the frontispiece of his work. He found it about four years since, upon the farm of Whiterig, the second known station for it in Britain. 2d, the *Scilla verna*, discovered by the Rev. A. Baird of Cockburnspath. It was growing upon the sea banks at Gunsgreen. Before the discovery of this *habitat*, it was believed to be a native exclusively of the western shores of the island. 3d, the *Astragalus glycyphyllos*, discovered for the first time in Berwickshire, by Mr A. Carr, surgeon, Ayton, in the dean above Burnmouth. This dean is said to be one of the most interesting botanical resorts in the neighbourhood. The *Hyoscyamus niger*, or henbane, grows wild on the sea coast, as discovered on the lands of Fairneyside, by Mr E. Colville, surgeon, Ayton.

All sorts of hard and soft wood grow well in this parish. Perhaps the Scotch and spruce firs thrive best. There are some very fine old hard-wood trees, of various kinds, surrounding Ayton House.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—There is no direct history, ancient or modern, of this parish, but from old charters of Coldingham priory and other sources, a few gleanings have been collected. From these it appears that Ayton was formerly a dependency on the monastery of Coldingham. When a colony of Benedictine monks settled at

Coldingham, between the years 1098 and 1107, under the auspices of King Edgar, that monarch, with many other endowments, bestowed upon them two places called Eytun (*Eytun et aliam Eytun*) being the village of Ayton, and another small dependency on the opposite side of the river, called Nether Ayton,—which were confirmed to them by the charters of his successors. Ayton being thus bestowed on the Coldingham monks, it is probable that its church (whose old walls are still extant, built of square hewn-stones, not closely jointed, and evidently very ancient) was founded about this time. Till the Reformation, it seems to have been a cell or chapel of the neighbouring priory. After the arrangement of the parishes in Scotland, the present parishes of Ayton and Coldingham formed the then parish of Coldingham. At the Reformation, Ayton was disjoined from Coldingham, and united with Lamberton on the south-east; but not long after, it became, as it now is, a parish *per se*.

Independently of all written records, the first object of historical antiquity or interest which presents itself to the eye is the round camp of Drumaw or Habchester, on the highest point of the southern extremity, now *half-ploughed down*, and reduced to the form of a semicircle. Some modern antiquarians have lamented that so perfect a specimen of the ancient British encampments has not escaped the mutilation of the plough, especially as no ancient relics have been discovered by the process of ploughing it down, to compensate for the deed. Enough, however, remains to mark the judgment and the industry with which such places had been selected and constructed, both with a view to observation and defence. Situated on the highest elevation of a lofty eminence, and commanding a most extensive prospect both of sea and land, no spot could be better chosen for watching the movements of an enemy; and formed of two concentric mounds with a deep trench between, and another outside, it was capable of making a vigorous resistance. As it stands on the northern side of the hill, it is probable that it was constructed by South Britons, to repel the assaults of their northern neighbours; at all events, it was not constructed by the Romans, as has been erroneously conjectured, for its form is circular. Near this spot must have passed the Roman road, which extended from the wall of Severus (which crosses the country at Newcastle) to the Roman camp in the vicinity of St Abb's Head, where it terminated. This road also must have passed close to the rising ground, on which has since stood, and since disappeared, the castle of Ayton, and which is now the site of Ayton House. Possibly the situations both of the camp and of the castle were cho-

sen, in part at least, on account of their contiguity to the Roman road, for long subsequently to the retiring of the Romans it would be the best, if not the only great, thoroughfare of the country. Cairnchester, another camp hard by, of which there are now no vestiges but the name, and Chesterdale and Chesterbank, all indicate that this hill had been often selected for encampments on account of the fitness of its locality for that purpose. * These, however, in process of time, gave place to castles, of which there are many remains in all the border counties, and which proved stronger and more permanent places of defence than camps.

Castle of Ayton.—Among these the Castle of Ayton seems to have held a distinguished place, as we learn from a siege to which it was subjected by Surry, the renowned general of Henry VII. in 1497, when, as Ford in his dramatic chronicle sayeth or singeth,

“ This strongest of their forts
Old Ayton Castle (was) yielded and demolished.”

It seems to have been founded long after the conquest, by a Norman of the name of De Vescie, who having formed a settlement on the banks of the Eye, erected a castle and collected his vassals around him. The village of Ayton sprang up under the castle walls for mutual protection. The family name of De Vescie was afterwards changed into that of *De Eitun*: and the Aytons of Inchdarney in Fife are supposed to be the lineal descendants of this ancient family.

Estate of Ayton.—About the commencement of the fifteenth century, the estate of Ayton fell into the possession of the Homes, who about that period had acquired great sway in Berwickshire. In 1715 it passed from the Homes, when the sentence of forfeiture was incurred by James Home, the last proprietor of that name, who had abetted the Earl of Mar in his vain attempt to reinstate the Stewarts upon the throne. After remaining a few years vested in the

* It may be proper to mention here an occurrence which happened in regard to the signal station erected during the late war, close by the ancient camp of Habchester; which eventually proved an experiment on the spirit of the country. The man at the station mistaking some whins blazing in the west for an inland alarm of the French landing, quickly lighted his beacon fire. This being observed from the manse windows by the former incumbent, was instantly communicated to the villagers, many of whom being volunteers were at their posts in a moment, and ready to march to repel the foe. The alarm spread in all directions. Both horse and foot volunteers, from all parts of Berwickshire, were immediately on their route to the place of rendezvous at Dunbar. The news soon reached Edinburgh, and both town and country were all in commotion. Some serious and distressing alarms were unavoidably the consequence, and might have been aggravated tenfold, had not the officer commanding the first of the shore stations at St Abb's Head, prudently abstained from repeating the signal, although he saw it distinctly. But being a thorough bred navy officer, he understood his duty better than to depart a hair's breadth from the line of his instructions, which were to communicate by signal only what he observed at sea.

crown, this estate was purchased by an ancestor of the present proprietor. Since that time it has undergone successive improvements and embellishments, by large plantations and otherwise, more congenial with peaceful times, and all of them done with much judgment and taste. The castle or mansion-house, standing on a beautiful acclivity, near the great London road, with its fine grounds full in view, is the first object of attraction and admiration in Scotland, to all strangers passing to the north. But alas, for the vicissitude of human affairs ! Although neither turmoil nor feuds disturb the peaceful habitations of this once agitated district, a devouring conflagration has within these few weeks, and in the short period of as many hours, reduced that delightful mansion to a heap of ruins. Providentially, the whole family, assembled from different quarters, as if to witness the sad catastrophe, and to render mutual aid, although scarcely in time warned of their danger, and some of them in the greatest jeopardy, escaped unhurt. They must remove for a season. May they soon return to retrieve the damage, and to enliven the scene, which is now desolate in the extreme.

Prendergust and Whiterig.—The next place in this parish respecting which there are any historical fragments is Prendergust. In the reign of David I., the half of this estate belonged to Swain, priest of the ancient parish of Fishwick, on the banks of the Tweed ; and there is a document extant whereby this individual renounced his claim to it in favour of the monks of Coldingham. Many of the Coldingham charters are witnessed by members of an Anglo-Norman family, who once possessed Prendergust, and seem to have imparted their name to the land. From the records of Lindisfern monastery, we learn that, in 1326, William de Prendergust, possessing somewhat of the qualifications of a border *reiver*, rendered himself notorious by plundering the brewhouse and bakehouse of that religious establishment,—this being the only instance on record of its having suffered *skait* at the hands of a freebooter. About the middle of the fifteenth century it passed to the Homes. The mansion-house of Prendergust is an excellent modern building. It has been occupied by the present tenant for about thirty years. The farm-house was taken down many years ago, and has never been rebuilt.—The same is the case with the mansion and farm-house of Whiterig, an adjoining property of rather smaller extent than the former. The latter is now in the possession of a gentleman who lately represented the city of Edinburgh in Parliament.

Peelwalls and Bastleridge.—During the fifteenth and sixteenth

centuries, the estates of Peelwalls and Bastleridge, to the eastward of the former two, had each a distinct proprietor (as they have still) named Home; and there is a deed extant in which Home of Bastleridge is styled bailiff of the barony of Peelwalls. The latter place, within the last three or four years, has undergone an extraordinary metamorphosis under the judicious management of a new proprietor. An elegant new mansion-house has been built of beautiful hewn stone, brought from the far-famed quarries of Killala, in Fife-shire; and the grounds and public roads have been so completely changed and improved, that any one who has not seen the place during that short period would be utterly at a loss to recognize it as the same. It may here be mentioned, to the honour of a former proprietor of this place, whose name might otherwise never have come down to our day, that there is the following inscription on one of the silver communion cups. "This cup, originally given by Magdalen Rule of Peelwalls, to the church of Ayton in 1677, was renewed and enlarged in 1780."

Flemingtons.—There are three places, all contiguous to each other, of the name of Flemington,—concerning which there is a tradition or conjecture that a colony of Flemish merchants had established themselves here, and imparted their name to their new settlement. As it is well known that the wool marts of these enterprising people went by the name of Redhalls, the existence of a place of that name in the immediate neighbourhood is corroborative of the tradition. One of these Redhalls likewise stood at the bottom of the street called Woolmarket, in Berwick. From the circumstance of the three Flemingtons lying on the side of the great hilly range on the south border of the parish, it is likewise probable that this tract was chosen by them on account of its being well adapted to sheep pasture, although now it is under tillage to the very top of the hill. There is still an extensive sheep walk on the other side of the hill, called Lamberton Moor, which belongs to the neighbouring parish of Mordington. The Flemings had probably chosen the north side of the hill, on account of its vicinity to the port of Eyemouth.

Gunsgreen.—Gunsgreen House, close by the sea side and harbour of Eyemouth, is an excellent mansion. The principal peculiarity of this house is, that it was built by a wealthy smuggler. For the purpose of carrying on his contraband traffic, he constructed it with many concealments within the house, and with others attached to it. These, it is supposed, have not all been discovered to this day; and if stored with valuable commodities, which, by any

accident, have as yet been left untouched, they may enrich some future possessor with unexpected treasure hid either in the house or in the field. To these there is now no clew. It is only a few years since the carriage-horses of the present proprietor were nearly swallowed up while ploughing in a field near the house,—owing to the roof of an unknown but empty concealment giving way. Of course not much treasure was found there. *

Netherbyres.—Immediately adjoining to Gunsgreen is the estate of Netherbyres, which, after having been in the possession of one family and their descendants for more than two hundred years, has lately been purchased by a gentleman well known to the world for his valuable and extraordinary manufacture and construction of chain-cables and suspension-bridges. By the latter, he has effected a second union of the sister kingdoms, in the beautiful chain-bridge over the Tweed at Paxton, which, it is hoped, will soon lead to the erection of others in this county, as it has already done in different parts of the kingdom. Of this most necessary means of communication, there is as yet a great deficiency in Berwickshire, over the larger streams. This enterprising gentleman has already commenced improvements on his newly-acquired property, where he intends to erect a splendid mansion-house, with an approach to it from the north side, by means of a suspension-bridge over the Eye; † and to form other embellishments, all which will furnish employment to many industrious individuals, and will contribute to ornament a parish already distinguished for its many beauties.

Fairneyside, Greystonelees, and Chesterbank.—The next place to be noticed is Fairneyside, a good property extending along the sea-coast, with an ancient mansion and farm-house, both, however, scarcely habitable. The former has been occupied by the farming tenants for many years, and the latter by the farm-servants. Here also smuggling concealments have lately been discovered,—indicating a twofold traffic carried on by a former tenant, the history of which is sufficiently recent to be pretty well known to the parishioners even at this day.—Adjoining to the foregoing property is that of Greyston-

* It was in allusion to this mansion-house that a member once observed in the Senate, that smuggling was carried on to such an alarming extent on the east coast of Scotland, that one man had been enabled, from its gains, to erect a splendid palace. It now belongs to a very different proprietor, lately the venerable pastor of this parish, author of the former Statistical Account, and father-in-law of the present incumbent.

† The operations are even now far in advance, and have already produced a magical transformation on the place. The particular form of suspension bridge now erecting is Captain Brown's own invention, and which he calls a *Tension Bridge*, being supported by, instead of being suspended from, the chains. This, in the opinion of some, is equally pleasing as the other form; while it saves the necessity and expense of having the fulcra or points of suspension raised aloft in the air.

lees. Here there is neither mansion nor farm-house, but a pretty good set of offices, and a thrashing-mill driven by water. Here, too, there is reason to suspect that smuggling had been carried on in former times. There is on this property a place called Catch-a-penny, well adapted for that purpose by its retired situation on the edge of the adjoining moor, and immediately above Burnmouth. It was probably so named or nick-named for its receiving a share of the booty. *

Ascending the hill from Greystonlees, we come next to Chesterbank, a smaller property, with a good, but rather ancient farm-house and with offices. The view from this spot is very grand, presenting another aspect of the valley beneath, which was formerly described; and in the distance, the Lammermoor hills, with St Abb's rearing its venerable head above the ocean.

Besides the camps already noticed, there appears to have been another on the high grounds above Chesterbank; and one is stated in the former Statistical Account to have stood on the north side of the parish. Spear heads are said to have been dug up at Redhall and other parts of the parish; and not many years ago there was turned up during the operation of trench-ploughing, on the farm of Prendergust, a small millstone, supposed to have belonged to the hand-mills of the Romans.—A curious stone with an inscription was also discovered at Gunsgreen, and a drawing thereof was sent to the Edinburgh Antiquarian Society, but no explanation has yet been obtained.

Parochial Registers.—The history of the parochial registers is very imperfect. Those of births and baptisms, the only ones formerly kept, go no farther back than 1743, and even after that period they seem not to have been regularly kept until about 1770. They are by no means voluminous even at this day. No other register has been regularly kept.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1741, the population did not exceed 640. This number was divided equally between the village of Ayton and the landward part of the parish. In 1821, it had arisen to 1481; and in 1831, when the last census was taken, to 1680, viz. 663 in the village, and 1017 in the rest of the parish. It is believed that the yearly average of births bears the usual proportion to the above numbers: but it cannot be easily or precisely ascertained from documents,

* There was a common saying at Eyemouth, when any strange sail was seen in the offing at night, and disappeared, that "she had gone round to Catch-a penny."

as the baptisms are dispensed in three different congregations, and no means have been employed to enforce regular parochial registrations. There are not at present more than five or six families of independent fortune residing in the parish. All the proprietors, except one, hold lands above the yearly value of L. 50.

Number of families in the parish, including Ayton Common,	-	352
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	100
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	200

There are six boats' crews of fishermen in the parish, consisting each of six men; and one boat's crew of the Preventive Service, consisting of one officer and six men.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—This parish contains nearly 6000 English acres of arable land, 800 in plantations, and between 200 and 300 in pasture. There are no lands waste; all are in the highest state of cultivation.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land is somewhat under L. 2. Horses and cows may be grazed for L. 5.

Rate of Wages.—Labourers' wages are 1s. 6d. per day, artisans' 2s. and 2s. 6d. Farm-servants called hinds have L. 4 per annum, with a cow's grass, 10 bolls of oats, 3 bolls of barley, a boll of pease or beans, with a proportional quantity of potatoe land, and a house and garden,—for which last two articles they supply a reaper in harvest to their masters.

Husbandry.—Every branch of husbandry is here conducted on the best principles. The turnip husbandry for many years has been a very important branch, and by the introduction of bone-dust, now in universal use, is brought to the greatest perfection. The general duration of leases is for nineteen or twenty-one years, a period equally agreeable to both landlord and tenant. Farm-buildings and enclosures are no where more complete than they are here in general. Iron ploughs and harrows have been long in common use. Nothing has contributed more to agricultural improvements than the complete system of draining which has now prevailed for many years. In this respect there is really little or nothing more left to be done. Grass fields are here sometimes irrigated. Of agricultural produce, some idea may be formed from the fact, that an acre of land in the parish will yield four bolls and a-half of wheat, or six bolls of barley.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:

3000 English acres of all kinds of grain at L. 5, 10s. per acre,	-	L. 16500	0	0
1500 potatoes and turnips at ditto,	-	8250	0	0
1500 hay at L. 4, 10s.	-	6750	0	0
200 permanent pasture at L. 3, 15s.	-	750	0	0
Gardens and orchards,	-	100	0	0
Annual thinning and felling of wood,	-	150	0	0
Fisheries,	-	1400	0	0
		<hr/>		
		L. 33900	0	0

Manufactures.—There are four grain mills in the parish, as formerly noticed, in which wheaten flour, oat-meal, barley and pease meal, and pearl barley, are manufactured. Of the latter article particularly, a considerable quantity is prepared for the London market. There are also in use here on every farm thrashing-mills driven by horses, wind, water, or steam. One farmer has a bone-mill, where 160 tons of bones, chiefly brought from Hamburgh, are ground yearly, and after providing himself with what bone-dust he requires, he supplies his neighbours with the surplus, to the amount of L. 700 or L. 800 worth per annum.

Paper-Mill.—There is here a paper-mill, lately much improved by the introduction of the new machinery, by which the operations are wonderfully facilitated, and the number of hands formerly employed, greatly reduced. The following statement by the proprietor will give an idea of the magnitude and value, &c. of this establishment. “The sorts of paper chiefly manufactured at Millbank paper-mill are pasteboards and coloured papers. Eight years ago a machine was erected by which paper is made into webs, and afterwards cut into such sizes as are wanted. And recently, a new plan has been adopted for drying it, by applying steam to the inside of large cylinders, round which the paper passes and comes off quite dry. The bleachfield at Ayton is given up, and is now employed in bleaching rags, and reducing them into (what is called in the trade) *half stuff*, and from thence taken down to the mill at Millbank, to be prepared and made into paper. The wages paid to the work people amount to nearly L. 800 a-year, and the excise duties to upwards of L. 3000 a-year.”

Distillery.—A distillery was erected ten or twelve years ago at Gunsgreen, upon the site and ruins of a former distillery, which had been discontinued for many years. It is now in active operation, and the following particulars respecting it have been communicated by one of the partners: “Gunsgreen distillery is capable of making 1500 gallons of aqua weekly, which is mostly all sold in London. In the spring of 1832, when potatoes were nearly unsaleable, and selling so low as 1s. 3d. per cwt., the distillers here, having a large quantity on hand, were induced to enter their work for distilling.

from potatoes; and to attempt the manufacture of aqua from them, which they found to answer well. Besides using their own, they bought all that were in their neighbourhood, and continued working from them for two months, during which time they consumed upwards of 6000 cwt. By the present distillery law distillers can work from potatoes at pleasure, but they must continue one month, or rather they cannot work from any other thing till the expiry of the month."

Tannery.—There was lately attempted in the village of Ayton, and with sufficient prospect of success, a small tannery. It belongs to, and is conducted by, a respectable shoemaker, who commenced it at first for the supply of his own professional demands, and now he is able to supply the trade to a considerable extent. He manufactures annually about L. 200 worth of as good leather as any that is made, and bids fair to form as good an establishment as any in the country.

There has been occasionally a manufacture of kelp on the shore at Burnmouth; but it is not very productive, else it would be more regularly prosecuted.

None of the manufactories of this parish have been complained of, as injurious to the health or morals of the people employed, and there is now less cause of such complaints, owing to the number of hands being reduced.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Village.—A fair has long been held twice a year in the village of Ayton. But since regular merchants and shopkeepers have established themselves in every town and village throughout the country, these fairs have often dwindled into mere erections of a few hucksters' stalls. Where this is the case, they yield little or no advantage to any one, are not frequented for purposes of traffic, and ought to be discontinued, especially as they not unfrequently lead to unnecessary or excessive drinking, and to unprofitable and hurtful associations among the youth of both sexes. There are no prevailing trades or handicrafts here, except such as are necessary in all agricultural districts. Blacksmiths are in greater demand than formerly, owing to farming implements being now made chiefly of iron. Of late years there has been a greater number than usual of wrights and masons, from the following cause: Since the great London road which passes through this parish was altered, the proprietor of Ayton estate has wisely availed himself of the circumstance, to grant feus for building on the new line of road. This arrangement has put it in his power to

get rid of the old houses at the upper end of the village, which trenched close upon the mansion-house. It has also led to the formation of an almost entirely new village, distinguished alike by the superiority, regularity, and general cleanliness of the new dwellings. Nor is it unlikely that it will eventually lead to the reduction of the number of paupers, many of whom occupied the old hovels which have been recently pulled down, and some of whom still linger in those which remain. A few handsome villas have lately been, and more are likely to be, erected in the extremities of the village. These already seem to have the effect of drawing respectable inhabitants to the place. As a useful substitute for the fairs, a monthly cattle market has very recently been established in Ayton, and is likely to succeed remarkably well,—this being a good central situation for the purpose.

Means of Communication.—The means of communication are here ample. There is a post-office in Ayton, and a daily post. The London road, always in the highest state of repair, passes through the village, the centre of the parish; and another road, not inferior in quality, leads from Eyemouth to Ayton, and into the interior of the county,—each bisecting the parish nearly at right angles to the other. On the former road two London coaches ply daily, viz. the Mail and the Union, each with four horses,—and another with two horses, also daily, betwixt Edinburgh and Newcastle. There are four good stone bridges, one within, and the other three leading into the parish. The first is at Ayton over the Eye, upon the London road, handsomely ornamented with embrasures. The next is near Eyemouth, over the same stream. The other two cross the Ale Water, one near the junction of the two streams, leading to Eyemouth, and the other on the road leading from Ayton to Coldingham. A ruinous bridge over the Eye, (which formed part of a very old road to London, and in the use of which as a kirk road, the parishioners every Sabbath day ran the risk of losing their lives,) fell down a few years ago, fortunately without doing hurt.

A boat-harbour has been erected lately at Burnmouth, strong enough to resist the heavy seas of the German ocean. The expense of erection was L. 1600, three-fourths of which were supplied by the commissioners for the fisheries, and the other fourth was contributed by the fishermen and others. It seems to afford good security to the boats; but the fishermen are of opinion, that an additional land pier also is necessary to complete the security, by contracting the mouth of the harbour, and breaking the swell of the sea.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church, although nearly half a mile from the village, and a quarter from the manse, is quite central for the parish, and is scarcely three miles distant from the remotest habitation. It stands on a romantic spot on the banks of the Eye, nearly opposite to Ayton House, in a situation of sweet seclusion. As already noticed, it is supposed to have been founded in the 12th century. Besides the present place of worship, consisting in part of the ancient walls, there still remain entire those of the south transept, all beautifully mantled with ivy, and now consecrated a second time, by the place having been converted into the burying-ground of the Ayton family, and adorned with appropriate shrubs and flowers by the pious care of the surviving relatives. In this portion of the ruins there is a stone window, with circular, and not pointed arches, which may be a guide to the antiquarian as to the age of the erection. There is likewise remaining, the gable of the chancel, the side-walls of which have been assisted in their decay, by the sacrilegious hands of plunderers, for the sake of the sandstone. In the gable of the present church, there is a large circular arch, nearly the whole width of the wall, but now built up, which must have formed the spacious communication with the chancel, and of course wide enough to admit the grand processions to and from the altar in Catholic times. The hewn stone of the walls, appears, from its quality, to have been brought from the sandstone quarry by the sea side at Greystonlees; and this perhaps may account for the church being built on the south side of the river. Its original dimensions comprehending the external ruins, had afterwards been contracted within narrower limits, corresponding with the actual population,—probably at the time when it was converted into a Protestant church. Upwards of twenty years ago, it underwent repairs and an enlargement, by the addition of a northern aisle and steeple. Its capacity was thus better adapted to the increased population, but it would even then, (and still more now,) have been too small, were it not for the accommodation supplied to the redundant population by the two meeting-houses in the village. These latter have also afforded similar accommodation to the growing population of the surrounding parishes. It would have been ultimately a saving to the heritors to have built a new church at the time of the last enlargement. The present although still in pretty good repair, will not last so long as a new one, and when repairs are next called for, it will probably require to be rebuilt and further enlarged. In its present state, it may contain nearly 500 sitters. None of the seats are free, except the communion benches, one or two of which are left for use in the

middle passage, but seldom required. The pews are the property of the heritors for themselves, their tenants, and servants. A few seats were given by the heritors to the kirk-session, to be let for the benefit of the poor; but for these little or no rent is received. The feuars and others who have no legal accommodation would, no doubt, obtain liberty to erect a gallery for themselves in the west end of the church, but they have hitherto preferred being indebted to the indulgence of such seat-holders as have spare room, or they occupy the seats of such tenants and farm-servants as attend the meeting-houses.

The manse was rebuilt nearly forty years ago, and is agreeably situated on the banks of the Eye. It has since at intervals undergone a few repairs, by the last of which, further accommodation has been secured, by dividing the attic story into apartments, which had been left unfinished at the time of building. Good new offices were lately erected of sufficient extent for the present incumbent, who has no farming operations. They would have been further enlarged if required. The garden and grounds were laid out with great taste by the former incumbent, and water has been brought into the house by the present.

The glebe contains $11\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and has been let, till lately, at a yearly rent of L. 38.—The stipend consists of sixteen chalders, half meal and half barley, convertible at the fiars prices of the county, which, as a matter of equity, ought to be struck twice in the year, instead of once. On an average of the last seven years it has amounted to L. 241, 4s. 10^s₇d. There are also L. 10 for communion elements, and a small fish tithe; the latter is ill paid, owing to the alleged poverty of the fishermen, who are otherwise an unusually respectable body of men, partly belonging to the Established church and partly Dissenters, and both in their dress and domestic equipments, betraying no symptoms of poverty.

The dissenting chapels were formerly Burgher and Antiburgher, but are now in the New Associate communion. Their ministers' stipends arise from the seat rents. Neither of them are said to exceed L. 100. The ministers have also a free house and garden. The number of families attending the Established church is 180; of families in the parish attending the chapels of Dissenters and Seceders, 145. The average number of communicants in the Established church is 360. The yearly average of the ordinary church collections is upwards of L. 20. The average of occasional church collections for religious purposes is between L. 3 and L. 4, perhaps once or twice in the year.

There is a small auxiliary to the county Bible Society in this parish, consisting of individuals belonging to the Established church and Dissenters. The average of their yearly contributions is about L. 6 or L. 7.

Education.—There is one parish school,—the teacher of which has the maximum allowance, and an excellent dwelling-house and garden. There are likewise five private schools, depending on school fees, and one supported by an allowance from the lady of the chief landed proprietor. The branches generally taught are English, reading, writing, and arithmetic. But some in the parish school are taught the higher branches, as Latin, French, geography, &c. Every branch in the parish school is well taught, as indicated by the recent enlargement of the school-room, and a great accession to the number of scholars, rendering it needful to have an assistant. There are a few boarders residing in the schoolmaster's house, and a likelihood of more, when the superior qualifications of the teacher, the fitness of the house, and the healthiness of the situation are better known. The school fees are much on a par with those of other parishes, varying according to the nature of the branches taught. On an average of the last three years they amount to L. 84 a-year. The teacher has also L. 30 a-year as clerk to the heritors and session. In the private schools, the fees are generally somewhat lower than in the parochial. There are very few in the parish, either old or young, who cannot read and write; and as the children are kept pretty regularly at school, and the fees, with few exceptions, readily paid, it may be inferred that the people in general are alive to the benefits of education.

Literature.—There are two small subscription libraries in Ayton, which commenced within these ten or twelve years. One consists of 500 volumes, which, although suited to general readers, is not very extensively resorted to, but would be more so, if it had not excluded religious books. The other consists of more than 300 volumes, and is calculated to supply the defect of the former, being better adapted to the entertainment and instruction of the labouring classes and rising generation. It was founded somewhat later than the former, by a benevolent gentleman in the neighbourhood, and assisted by the donations of others: it is thus more accessible to the poor, and although intended as an itinerating library with others founded in neighbouring parishes by the same gentleman, no interchange of books has as yet taken place amongst them.

Friendly Society, &c.—There is a friendly society in Ayton,

supported chiefly by the older people, but not very flourishing, as the younger generation are losing the spirit of independence, becoming less saving in their habits, and relying more on parochial aid for supplying the wants of old age.—There is also a temperance society lately established here, consisting almost exclusively of people who were previously sober in their habits. There is no evidence as yet of its having had the effect of converting a single drunkard. But it must not be denied, that it may have given a further improvement to the sober habits of the former class; and possibly, it may have prevented some of them from acquiring contrary habits.—A savings' bank was established some years ago in Eyemouth, of which it was expected that many in the neighbouring parishes would have availed themselves; but the same cause has prevented the success of this establishment, which has already been assigned for the falling off of the friendly society.—There is no Dispensary here, but the poor receive medical advice at home, at the expense of the parish.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of persons receiving parochial aid is between 50 and 60. The average weekly allowance to each is 2s. 6d. The parish, including heritors and their tenants, is regularly assessed for the support of the poor. The average amount of yearly assessments is L. 400. The heritors have long allowed the whole of the church collections, together with the money arising from the use of the mortcloth, and from proclamations of marriage, to be laid out by the kirk-session in giving temporary aid to poor not upon the roll, and in paying a small fee to the clerks and officers of synod, presbytery, and kirk-session. If any money remains at the end of the year, it is laid out in coals to the poor, generally after new year; and sometimes, when there is a deficit for this latter purpose, an extraordinary collection is appointed in the church to make it up. The farmers and others are occasionally so kind as to drive the coals. There is no mortified or endowed money in this parish for the benefit of the poor; but occasionally small donations have been given or bequeathed for distribution.

This parish labours under a singular disadvantage, owing to the village of Ayton being the first town in Scotland on the great London road. Crowds of poor families and individuals, originally belonging to Scotland, having acquired no parish settlement in England, are daily sent down through the English parishes, in cart loads, many of them unable to walk, and thrown into Ayton, as though it were the limit of their destination. When they happen to have regular

passes to any of the eastern counties of Scotland, they are moved forward at the expense of this county. But when, as often happens, either from carelessness, or the intentional mistake of people interested in transporting them, they are sent down by the east instead of the west road, this county refuses to be at any expense in their further conveyance. So, from pure humanity and dire necessity, the parish of Ayton must remove the most helpless of them, else they might lie and die in our streets. Besides these, there is now a vast number of travelling poor, a great proportion of whom are Irish, passing north and south daily and hourly on this road, who beset the manse and schoolmaster's house sometimes in formidable bands, conceiving they have a legal claim for aid by the way. Many of these are evidently labouring under disease, sickness, and want,—requiring both relief and medical assistance. Such persons occasionally die here, and are buried at the expense of the parish, and sometimes leave to it as a legacy a destitute orphan, whose proper parish cannot be found. There ought to be a joint fund among all the parishes of each county, more especially of this border county, where the evil is greatest, to defray such expenses, and not to suffer the burden to lie upon those parishes whose particular locality exposes them to such a hardship. This multitude of travelling poor indicates the depressed state of the country at large, and it need scarcely be asked, “whether there is any disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief, and whether they consider it degrading.” In this neighbourhood, as well as in most other parts of the low country at least, the pride of independence has become almost extinct.

Lock-up-house, &c.—Some years ago a lock-up-house was built in the village, which is occasionally occupied for a night by unruly vagrants and others. They are generally dismissed in the morning. But there would be fewer calls for this accommodation if there were fewer accommodations of a different description for the thoughtless and intemperate. In this parish there are no less than nine public houses, whereas at most, one or two respectable inns would be quite sufficient for all the purposes of travelling or business. The combined effects of so many facilities for drinking are anything but favourable to the morals of the people.

Fuel.—Coals are supplied to this parish in abundance both by sea and land. Forth and Newcastle coals come in at Eyemouth, and are sold out of the ship at 10s. and 12s. per ton, and may be carted to Ayton for a couple of shillings more. They may also be brought by land from the other side of the Tweed at nearly the

same price. There was a prospect renewed lately of coals being wrought along the coast, about a few miles to the south-east of this, but the stratum not being found of sufficient thickness to encourage the erection of machinery, the project has again, for the present, been abandoned. About eight miles northward peats may be procured, but they are here in very little demand.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The great depression in the price of agricultural produce has, of late years, materially retarded improvements, which the landlord and tenants have shewn a laudable ambition to promote, if the times afforded encouragement. Some years ago the chief proprietor invited a few individuals, with their families, to settle on a moorish land belonging to him, about eight miles to the north, called Ayton common, said to be a part of this parish, although surrounded by that of Coldingham. With a view to improve the land, he gave them a grant of it for a very small acknowledgment. But it does not appear as yet to have been turned to any very good account. The principal improvements in the parish consist in the alteration of the London road, to avoid the long ascents at Ayton-hill on the south, and at Pease Bridge on the north; and the consequent new-modelling of the village of Ayton;—the alteration of the road leading from Eyemouth to the interior of the country by the south of Ayton, to avoid the steep ascent at Millerton-hill,—and the alteration of another road in the parish leading from Berwick to Eyemouth, by which the great descent at Blaikies has been avoided. It was at one time in agitation to extend this latter road along the coast, as forming a better line for the London road, and less liable to obstructions from snow, than one more inland.—A moral improvement has been wrought by the complete suppression of foreign smuggling, through the establishment of the Preventive Service along the coast. There is, however, a system of smuggling more demoralizing, if not also more hurtful to the revenue, still carried on, all along the English border, in which Ayton has borne a share,—namely, the illicit traffic in Scotch whisky. This traffic, on account of the high duty paid for Scotch whisky in England, holds out a strong temptation to carry it over the borders at all points, and by all sorts of artful conveyances,—a practice which has not hitherto been prevented by all the vigilance of the excise.—Perhaps the only and the most equitable way to put an effectual stop to it, is to equalize the duties on both sides of the Tweed.

July 1834.

PARISH OF HUTTON.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JOHN EDGAR, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE parish of Fishwick was united to Hutton in 1614; and these two now form one parish. In this district, the parishes must have been originally very small, as most of the present ones formed two, and still are by no means large either in extent or population. Fishwick is situated on the north bank of the Tweed, and the ruins of the church and churchyard yet remain. The site is very picturesque and solitary, Fishwick probably derives its name from having been a *fishing village*. From its proximity to the Tweed, it is not improbable that its inhabitants in olden times were chiefly fishermen. Hutton, which lies to the north of Fishwick, and is bounded on the north by the river Whitadder, it has been conjectured, owes its name to its low situation—being originally *How town*, which in process of time became *Hutton*. It is now the name used to designate the united parishes. Contiguous to this parish, on the north side of the Whitadder, are the parishes of Chirnside, Foulden, and Mordington on the N. W. N. and N. E.—Edrom bounds it on the W.—Whitsome and Ladykirk on the S. W.—the Tweed on the S.: and the parish of Berwick on the E. In extent it is about four miles long, and upwards of three broad; and its figure is a sort of irregular triangle.

Topographical Appearances.—The general aspect of the parish is flat, presenting no elevated grounds deserving notice. On the banks of the Tweed and Whitadder, however, the ground is diversified by gentle elevations, which contrast well with the tame scenery of the other parts of the parish. The medium height above the level of the sea does not exceed 150 feet. The banks of the Whitadder are rather deficient in sylvan scenery. Were they planted, the proprietors would soon be remunerated, and the scenery, which possesses great capabilities for picturesque effect, would be much improved.

Soil.—The soil on the banks of the Tweed and Whitadder is

extremely fertile, and well adapted for producing luxuriant crops of all kinds of grain, clover, turnips, and potatoes. It is a rich deep loam, generally resting upon freestone. Some of it is fine sharp land, excellently calculated for raising turnips; but it is in general better fitted for wheat. In the middle of the parish the soil is by no means so good, but is thin, wet, and moorish, and has for its substratum a strong tenacious clay. A tract of land of this description, in breadth about a mile, commences here, and runs from east to west to the upper part of the county, while on each side of this stripe the soil is valuable and productive. The inhabitants are not liable to any particular diseases, arising from peculiarity of climate; and the parish upon the whole may be pronounced healthy. Fevers seldom make their appearance here. The ague, which used to be here a periodical scourge, has entirely disappeared, and instances of considerable longevity are by no means uncommon.

Sandstone is found after digging to any considerable depth in almost every part of the parish. On the banks of the Whitadder, upon the estate of Hutton Hall, there is a stratum of gypsum. Some casts were made of it by Mr O'Neil, of Edinburgh, who found it to be of excellent quality, and well adapted to the purposes to which this mineral is generally applied. But whether there is sufficient quantity to repay the expense of working it, or whether it is practicable to do so from the steepness of the banks where it is found, is doubtful.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The only circumstance worthy of notice, under this head, is, that it appears probable that the army of Edward I. encamped here on the 29th of March 1296, being the day preceding that on which he took the town of Berwick. From a diary of his progress through Scotland, it appears that *Hatton* or *Hauden* was the place * where he and his army lay the day after he left Coldstream. And as Hutton lies almost in the direct line of his march to Berwick from Coldstream, where he crossed the Tweed on the 28th of March, it seems almost certain that it was visited *en passant* by this arch foe of Scotland.

Eminent Men.—It deserves also to be recorded that Andrew Foreman, Bishop of Moray, Archbishop of Bourges in France, and afterwards Archbishop of St Andrew's, who flourished about the beginning of the sixteenth century, was a native of this pa-

* Transactions of the Antiquarian Society of London.—Tytler's History of Scotland, Notes.—Carrick's Life of Sir William Wallace, Vol. i. p. 207.

rish. He is said to have been of the family of the Foremans* of Hutton in the Merse. The uncommon political talents, and the acute understanding which distinguished this prelate, gained for him most powerful patronage. He was a favourite of two successive Scottish monarchs, James III. and IV., two successive popes, Julius II. and Leo X., and of Louis XII. of France. By those high personages he was loaded with honours and benefices. Though opposed by powerful competitors, he was elevated to the first See in Scotland. He was likewise employed as an ambassador from the court of Scotland to that of France. Historians have given opposite portraits of his character, of the real features of which it is difficult to form an opinion. Of the family of this distinguished individual, the only trace that is left is a small field, which, as if in mockery of mortal ambition, still retains the name of "*Foreman's Land*."

The late Mr Philip Redpath, minister of this parish, was editor of the Border History, which was chiefly written by his brother Mr George Redpath, minister of Stitchell. The work is creditable to his talents and industry, and is generally considered as extremely accurate with regard to facts, and valuable as a book of reference. Mr Philip Redpath was also the author of an English translation of Boethius' Consolations of Philosophy, which met with a favourable reception from the public.

The late George Home, Esq. of Wedderburn, resided for many years in this parish at his seat of Paxton. He was a gentleman of extensive information, refined taste, and considerable literary attainments,—having been a member of that distinguished club of literati who adorned Edinburgh at the period when the Mirror and Lounger were given to the public. Several of his papers in these periodical works remain as monuments of his taste and talents. He was an intimate friend of the late Mr Henry Mackenzie, author of the Man of Feeling, of the late Lord Craig, and of other learned and talented individuals of the same school. These eminent characters frequently visited him during the summer recess at his elegant retreat on the banks of the Tweed. Mr Home was also distinguished by his practical knowledge of business, and took a leading part in the management of the public affairs of the county. †

* Dr Henry's History.

† The late Mr Bookless, schoolmaster of this parish, when alive, attracted much attention for the extreme height of his stature, which was of a gigantic order, and is not yet forgotten by those who knew him. He was 7 feet 4 inches high. He was a man of mild and amiable dispositions, and fond of social intercourse, but his deli-

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners of this parish are, 'John Joseph Macbraire, Esq. of Broadmeadows and Fishwick; William Foreman Home, Esq. of Billie and Paxton; John Maclean Mackenzie Grieve, Esq. of Hutton Hall; the Rev. William Stow Lundie of Spittal and Clarabad; Captain Jeffreys of Sunwick; Hugh Scott, Esq. of Harden; and Henry Trotter, Esq. of Morton-Hall.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of the parochial records is 1649. They consist of five volumes, and with a chasm of twenty-eight years, viz. from 1672 to 1700, they have been regularly kept.

Antiquities.—There are no antiquities in the parish deserving of much notice. From the ruins of the church of Fishwick which still remain, it appears to have been a very plain building, long and narrow, and of small dimensions. The mansion-house of Hutton Hall is rather a curious specimen of an ancient border keep, and almost the only one which is still inhabited in this district. It seems evidently to have been constructed as a place of strength, and for purposes of defence; and to have been built at several different periods. The date of its erection, however, cannot be ascertained. The original building appears to have been a square tower, to which at different times a long narrow dwelling-house has been added. It is situated on the brink of an eminence not far distant from the Whitadder, and overlooking that stream. The site is striking and uncommon, and the *tout ensemble* of the building, as well as its internal arrangements, forcibly recall to the mind the days when it was necessary, in the construction of houses, especially on the borders, to consult strength and security, rather than the graces of ornament, or the decorations of art.

Modern Buildings.—There are several large and excellent mansion-houses in the parish. Of these Paxton and Broadmeadows are the most remarkable. The former was built upwards of sixty years ago, after a design of the celebrated Adams. The material employed is dark freestone; and the front is remarkably handsome and massive, though perhaps rather heavy. It is a very substantial building, and contains several spacious and elegant apartments. In one of them, which is uncommonly large, and which was added

cacy was frequently hurt by the intrusion of curious individuals; and with an extreme but excusable sensitiveness, he shrunk from the idea of being considered as a spectacle. Notwithstanding the apparent vigour of his frame, Providence had not blessed him with a robust constitution. He died at an early period of life, and his remains were interred in the church-yard here.

some years ago to the original building, there is a very numerous and valuable collection of paintings, which are much admired, and have a very imposing effect. The Tweed flows close past the house on the south-east. Broadmeadows House is a more modern building, in the Grecian style of architecture. The stone employed in its construction is a very fine white freestone. The apartments are elegant, and the accommodation extensive. Spittal House and Tweed-hill are neat country residences. The latter is situated on the Tweed, at a short distance from the Union Chain Bridge, and the whole scenery connected with this villa, as well as with Paxton, which is immediately contiguous, presents features of considerable beauty. The trees at both these places seem to thrive admirably.

III.—POPULATION.

There are no records by which we can trace the ancient state of the population. That it was numerically less than at present is certain. It appears to have been gradually rising, until within the last ten or twelve years, when a slight decrease took place.

1. Population, according to the last Statistical Account,	-	920				
according to the Government census, in 1801,		955				
		1811,	1090			
		1821,	1118			
		1831,	1099		{ Males, 537	
					{ Females, 562	
Population of the villages in 1831, Paxton,	-	-	-	-	-	270
Hutton,	-	-	-	-	-	258
in the rest of the parish,	-	-	-	-	-	571
2. The yearly average of births for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	-	-	32
of deaths,	-	-	-	-	-	20
of marriages,	-	-	-	-	-	14
3. The average number of persons under 15,	-	-	-	-	-	400
betwixt 15 and 30,	-	-	-	-	-	310
30 and 50,	-	-	-	-	-	220
50 and 70,	-	-	-	-	-	122
upwards of 70,	-	-	-	-	-	47
4. Number of families of independent fortune resident in the parish,	-	-	-	-	-	5
5. Number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards,	-	-	-	-	-	11
6. Number of families in 1831,	-	-	-	-	-	236
chiefly engaged in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	-	113
in trades, manufactures or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	-	61
7. Number of inhabited houses,	-	-	-	-	-	211

There are no uninhabited houses, and none building.

Six illegitimate births have occurred during the last three years.

Language, Habits, &c. of the People.—The language generally spoken is the Berwickshire dialect of the Scots, intermixed occasionally with the Northumbrian *burr*. The most remarkable peculiarities which distinguish this dialect are observable in the following words : fire, pronounced *feyre* ; water, *wayter* ; chair, *shire* ; two, *twæ* ; church, *surch* ; cheese, *sheese*, &c. There is no reason to suppose that any very material alteration in this respect has occurred within the last forty years.

The cottage of a Berwickshire ploughman or labourer may vie in cleanliness with that of any of the same class either in England or Scotland. Seldom is there any of that squalor to be observed, which is so offensive in other districts of Scotland. The same regard to cleanliness and comfort is displayed in the article of dress. Where these habits prevail, it will be generally found, that they are the accompaniments of sobriety, industry, morality, and religion, and that opposite habits are commonly associated with irreligion and profligacy.

That the people enjoy in a reasonable degree the comforts and advantages of society cannot be doubted. They themselves feel that they do so, and are thankful for these advantages. Employed entirely in agricultural labours, they are not overworked, but have sufficient leisure to attend to their families, and to cultivate the moral, religious, and domestic affections. Not being huddled together in dense masses, they are not exposed to those temptations with which the manufacturing population of large and crowded towns is beset, but maintain that independence of mind, simplicity of character, sobriety of thought, and decency of conduct, which are generally associated with rural life. Many of them bring up large families upon slender means, and it rarely happens that the education of their children is neglected. Few of them intermeddle with the irritating subject of politics, or with the controversial disputations of theology. Knowing that their superiors are interested in their welfare, they pay them that respect to which they are entitled. The higher classes, in their turn, are charitable and attentive to the poor; and thus a bond of union is formed betwixt them, which is productive of the best effects.

The peasantry are intelligent and acute, and few of them are without a small collection of books, and of these, the majority generally consists of those old manuals of divinity, which have by prescriptive right long been the favourites of the Scottish peasantry. The frequent perusal of these books, though homely in their garb, and perhaps not very polished in style, has a tendency to keep alive their reasoning faculties, as well as to foster and confirm their religious principles. With them also a taste for reading is gaining ground; and, with their moral habits, and sound modes of thinking, it is to be hoped that the influence produced may prove salutary.

In all the practical processes of agricultural and rural economy, they are in general well informed, and in the management of the plough, or the use of the spade, a Berwickshire hind or labourer

is not to be excelled. Spade work is done with neatness, exactness, and celerity.

Crimes are seldom heard of amongst them, and there is not an instance, within the memory of any now living, of an inhabitant of this parish having been tried before our supreme criminal courts.

Convictions for poaching game and salmon indeed sometimes occur, but these are by no means frequent. As inhabiting a border parish, the lower classes are also exposed to the temptation of evading the excise laws, by smuggling whisky into England. This is a crying evil, and loudly demands the interference of the legislature.

The great majority are attached to the Established church, and regular in their attendance on the means of grace, and the ordinances of religion. The Sabbath is observed with reverence, and the cases are rare of any desecration of that sacred day by idleness or dissipation. They are generally well acquainted with their Bibles, and habitually accustomed to peruse them. Deriving their religious knowledge from this pure and holy source, they are for the most part well informed concerning the doctrines and duties of Christianity : and in all the leading doctrines of our church, with regard to the fall of man, the consequent corruption and depravity of our nature, the inability of man to save himself, the method of restoration by the death of Christ, the divinity of our Saviour, the sanctification and divine work of the Spirit, justification by faith, and the great object and design of the Gospel to promote purity of heart, and holiness of life,—their notions are sound and correct. Their religious faith is practical and salutary in its effects, and demonstrates its excellence by its influence on their lives. Many of them still attend to the ancient and wholesome, but too much neglected duty of family worship, and devote the Sabbath evenings to the instruction of their children in the elements of Christian truth and moral duty. Their religion affords them support and consolation amidst the hardships of a laborious condition, and under the trying vicissitudes and afflictions of life. They feel that it is their best friend, and the only source of true happiness. A familiar intercourse with the people of this parish, for nearly fourteen years, in his ministerial capacity, entitles the writer to speak thus of their character. Nor is he partial to those of his own religious persuasion ; for what he has said applies not more to them than to the Dissenters of the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—With the exception of about

thirty or forty tradesmen, twenty fishermen, and a few persons employed in a brick manufactory, the whole parochial population is agricultural. In the prosperity of agriculture, therefore, the people of this parish have a direct interest.

The whole number of acres cultivated, or occasionally in tillage, is 4950: and the banks of the Whitadder and Tweed, which are too steep for the plough, and which embrace about 61 acres, are the only parts of the parish which have never been under culture. Some of these, however, produce excellent natural pasture. About 250 acres are under wood, which thrives remarkably well, and has a healthy appearance.

The trees planted are generally oak, ash, elm, plane, beech, and the various sorts of fir. To this branch of rural economy considerable attention is paid by the proprietors. The trees planted are suitable to the soil, and for the most part are thinned and pruned at proper seasons. Sales of wood frequently take place, and it is readily purchased at fair prices, and found useful for country purposes. There is a considerable quantity of wood upon the estates of Broadmeadows, Paxton, and Fishwick, and it is rapidly improving.

Rent of Land.—The rent of land varies from 10s. to L. 4 per English acre, and the average rent of the land of the whole parish is L. 1, 15s. per acre. For grazing an ox or cow the average rent is L. 4.

Rate of Wages.—Labourers employed in agricultural operations, such as ditching, cutting drains, and filling them up, receive for wages, at the rate of 9s. per week, winter and summer: masons and carpenters, from 2s. 6d. to 3s. per day: men employed as shearers during harvest have, for some years past, received 2s. 6d. per day, and women 2s. 2d., with their victuals. A hind, or married farm-servant's gains, as they are called, are, a cow's keep, 10 bolls of oats or meal, 3 bolls of barley, 1 boll of pease or beans, and about a quarter of an acre of potatoes,—besides what is called sheep-money, amounting to L. 3 or L. 4. His coals are also driven by his master. A cottage is provided for him, in return for which he must find a person to shear during harvest, and to carry stacks, &c. He must also keep a *bondager* to work at field work for his master throughout the year, at the rate of 10d. per day. The system of employing hinds as agricultural labourers is excellent, and generally adopted in this parish, and indeed in the county at large. To the practice of the north of Scotland, where farm labour is chiefly executed by unmarried men, who herd together in a *bothy*, it is certainly far superior. The hind has a house and small garden of his

own, and is never separated from his family. His gains raise him above penury, and with good management, and an industrious and frugal wife, he can never be in want of the necessaries of life. Being paid chiefly in grain, he has an interest in the produce of the farm, which stimulates his industry; and while he is attending to his master's interests, he is also promoting his own. He is generally treated with kindness, as a proof of which many continue for a number of years in the service of the same master.

Husbandry.—Of late years there has been a failure of clover even on lands of good quality, which have been long under a system of judicious management, and to which every justice has been done. For this failure various causes have been assigned. Most persons are of opinion that it proceeds from the too great severity of the four-shift husbandry, and from the land under it not being allowed to remain long enough in grass. The depressed state of agriculture has caused a considerable decrease in the use of lime. One gentleman, who has one of his farms in his own possession, has given it a complete liming within these two years, and the additional quantity of corn in the stack-yard is the best proof of the effect produced. Draining is practised with great success, and to a considerable extent. In one field of 15 acres, upon a farm cultivated by a landed proprietor during last summer, 393 roods of drains were cut, and 1082 cart loads of stones used for filling them up, at an expense amounting to L. 78, 14s. By a judicious system of draining, a striking improvement has been effected both by proprietors and tenants of late years.

The condition of farm-buildings is good on most of the properties. The dwelling-houses of the tenants are substantial and comfortable, suitable to the size of the farm, and with convenient accommodation for a family. The offices are well laid out for the various purposes of rural economy. Slates are generally used for the roofs of modern farm-houses and offices. There are fourteen thrashing-machines in the parish, of which one has a steam power, one is driven by wind, two by water, and the rest by horses.

The whole land is enclosed chiefly by thorn-hedges, and much care is employed to keep the fences in proper order. Persons are still alive who remember the time when a considerable portion of the parish was unenclosed, and when the grain was carried to Berwick on horses, the state of the roads not admitting the use of carts.

Improvements.—The principal improvements which have taken place within the last thirty years, in as far as agriculture is con-

cerned, may be thus enumerated,—better parish and turnpike roads,—superior accommodation in farm-buildings,—more attention given to the culture and cleaning of the land,—agriculture more systematically pursued,—a more extensive and more skilful style of draining,—a more useful kind of farm-horses,—greater facilities afforded for thrashing and marketing grain,—a wider breadth of turnips sown, and heavier crops raised, and, as a consequence of this, a greater quantity of stock fed, and fitted in a shorter time for the butcher.

It is much to be regretted, however, that this interest is at present, and has been for some years, in such a depressed state, from the low price of agricultural produce, especially grain. No man who has at heart the welfare of his country, and who is acquainted with the character of our farmers for skill, industry, and enterprise, but must lament that a state of things should have occurred to deteriorate the condition of such a respectable and useful class of the community. They have undoubtedly fallen upon evil days, and their prospects are far from encouraging. They are not much in the habit of complaining, and for this they deserve credit; yet to any person who compares the low price of grain for some years with the rents they are under engagement to pay, and the other expenses necessarily attendant upon agriculture, it must be evident that their condition is the very reverse of prosperous.

Quarries.—There are several freestone quarries of beautiful colour and fine quality in this parish; but none of them are at present worked for sale.

Fishings.—Upon that part of the Tweed which forms the boundary of the parish, there are four or five fishing stations, where upwards of twenty men are employed. They are a robust, healthy, and industrious class. When employed in their vocation, they are much in the open air; and the nature of their employment requiring considerable activity, without being oppressively fatiguing, has a tendency to brace and invigorate the bodily frame. Trout, salmon, and grilse are caught sometimes in great abundance. The method of fishing is with boats and nets. Men are stationed at particular places of the river, where the water is shallow, to watch the fish coming up; and so habituated are they to this, that they can discover, by a ripple on the surface of the water, even a solitary fish making his progress upwards. When a fish is thus discovered, an alarm is instantly given to the men at the *shiel* or house where the fishermen lodge, and immediately a boat is rowed off by one man with great celerity, having a net attached to it, and ready prepared

for dropping gradually into the water,—one end of which is tied to the boat, and the other is dragged with a rope by the men on shore: and by taking a considerable sweep, an endeavour is made to surround the fish. When thus discovered coming up, they seldom escape. The fish caught on the Tweed are sent from Berwick by sea to the London market, packed in boxes with ice. The fisheries are chiefly rented by salmon coopers in Berwick, who carry on this trade. For some years past, there have been general complaints of the want of fish. No adequate cause has been assigned for this, but the fact is well known, and has been severely felt. Much pecuniary loss has been sustained by the proprietors and tacksmen, and the value of this kind of property has been deteriorated to a great extent. Some waters do not let now at above a third of their former value. A new act of Parliament has lately been obtained for regulating the fisheries of the Tweed. It is hoped that the provisions of this statute may contribute to prevent the fish from being destroyed in an illegal manner, and at improper seasons. The yearly close time now commences on the 15th of October, and terminates on the 15th of February. The weekly close time begins on Saturday evening at six o'clock, and ends on Monday morning at the same hour. These are considered as improvements upon the old act, and it is expected that this useful branch of industry, which gives employment to so many persons, and provides a supply of such wholesome and excellent food, may yet recover from its present state of depression, and afford ample remuneration to all concerned in it. The proprietors of fishing waters in this parish are Mr Wilson of Whitsome-hill, and Mr Home of Paxton. Their value cannot be ascertained, as the waters which belong to Mr Wilson are not let, but are in his own possession. The rent of Mr Home's water has been very much reduced.

Manufactories.—There is a manufactory on the estate of Paxton of bricks and tiles, which meet with a ready sale in the adjacent district. Tiles for drains are also made, and much used. Business to a considerable extent is transacted by three corn-mills in the parish. Large quantities of corn are purchased from the farmers in the neighbourhood, which is manufactured into flour, meal, and pot-barley, and exported from Berwick to London. Flour is also sent to Berwick for home consumption.

Agricultural Association.—An association was lately formed by the proprietors and tenants in the parish for the purpose of encouraging and rewarding skill in the management of the plough. A competition took place, and prizes were awarded to the most ex-

pert performers, after an examination of the work done. It is thought that an institution of this nature will stimulate young men to attain proficiency in an art so essential to an agricultural district.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Grain of all kinds,	-	-	-	-	-	L.11906	0	0
Potatoes, turnips,	-	-	-	-	-	2622	0	0
Hay,	-	-	-	-	-	1224	0	0
Land in pasture, rating it at L. 4 per cow, or full-grown ox, and 16s.								
per ewe, or full-grown sheep,						2555	0	0
Gardens,	-	-	-	-	-	200	0	0
Thinnings of plantations,	-	-	-	-	-	150	0	0
Fisheries,	-	-	-	-	-	1000	0	0
							<hr/>	
							L. 19,657	0 0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages.—Berwick-upon-Tweed is the nearest market-town, and is distant about six miles from the village of Hutton. From it the inhabitants of the parish are chiefly supplied with butcher-meat, groceries, wearing apparel, &c. Berwick can boast of very excellent markets. Hutton and Paxton are the only two villages,—at each of which there is a post-office, where letters are received, and despatched daily by means of a runner to and from Berwick.

Means of Communication.—Ample means of communication are enjoyed by the inhabitants with the surrounding country. A bridge across the Whitadder connecting this parish with that of Foulden or Chirnside, would be one of the most useful local improvements that could be executed. The roads in every direction are excellent, and much care is used to keep them in repair. Two turnpike roads pass through the parish, one leading from Dunse to Berwick, and the other from Berwick to Kelso by Swinton. On both of these roads there is a considerable passage by carts. There are ten miles of parish roads, and the same number of turnpike. Formerly great inconvenience was experienced from the want of a bridge across the Tweed. Many serious accidents, and frequent instances of loss of human life, occurred. In the year 1820, however, a remedy was applied to this evil by the erection of an iron suspension-bridge, under the superintendence of Captain Samuel Brown of the Royal Navy. The bridge is distant about two miles and a-half from Hutton, and is about six miles up the Tweed from Berwick. The structure is an admirable specimen of this kind of bridge, and completely answers the purpose for which it was intended. It is made of malleable iron. Its length is 361 feet, and its weight 100 tons. A very substantial and elegant arch of freestone

masonry stands on the Scots side, through which carriages enter upon the platform of the bridge, which is made of wood plated with iron, and which is connected with the principal chains by upright iron rods. It is to be regretted that the nature of the ground on the English side did not admit of a similar arch being there erected, which would have communicated to the whole structure greater symmetry and beauty. The structure, however, is extremely light and elegant, and highly creditable to the ingenuity and taste of Captain Brown. The whole expense was from L. 7000 to L. 8000. As all the coals and lime used in this and the adjoining parishes are brought from the south of the Tweed, the passage of carts by the bridge is considerable. In the summer season it is much visited by strangers and generally admired. The most commanding view of it is obtained from the English side, about half way up the hill on the road which leads from the bridge to the village of Horncliffe. There, on a summer evening, the still and pellucid waters of the silver Tweed, which assume here the quietude and smoothness of a lake; the light and fragile form of the bridge floating in the air, with its shadow reflected from the stream beneath; the tasteful clumps of planting which adorn the banks; the trees and woods of Paxton and Tweedhill, in all the pride of vegetative luxuriance; and the fishermen in their boats plying at their vocation on the unruffled waters,—present a scene highly beautiful and imposing.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated on the north side of the village of Hutton, and about a quarter of a mile south of the Whitadder, which forms the northern boundary of the parish. It has been placed rather too near the extremity of the parish. The church was built in 1765. Originally it must have been a mean structure, and, from the effects of time, it is now almost in a state of ruin. It is so damp that persons of delicate health are prevented from attending it. It affords accommodation for 400 sitters. As there is now, however, the prospect of a new church being built, larger accommodation will be provided, and there is little doubt that the heritors will erect a structure of some taste and beauty,—qualities much wanted in the parish churches of this county,—most of them, with the exception of Ladykirk, being very poor and shabby erections.

The manse was built about forty years ago; and in 1822 considerable repairs and an addition were made to it.—There are two glebes, one in Hutton, the other in Fishwick parish. They amount to about thirteen acres, and are worth about L. 30 per annum.

The amount of the stipend is sixteen chalders; the one-half meal the other barley, with L. 10 for communion elements. The stipend this year, from the low price of grain, amounted to little more than L. 200.

There are no dissenting or seceding chapels in the parish. The individuals belonging to the various sects of dissenters, viz. Burghers, Cameronians, Relief church, &c. do not exceed one hundred. Three families are attached to the Episcopalian, and one to the Roman Catholic persuasion. Divine worship is generally well attended. If there was a comfortable church and larger accommodation, the numbers attending public worship would be increased, as many families have at present no seats. The number of communicants for the last seven years has varied from 400 to 450. The church collections for the benefit of the poor amount annually to about L. 20, independently of collections on extraordinary occasions, or for objects unconnected with the parish.

Education.—There is one parochial school: and three others, the teachers of which are paid by the school fees. One of them is in the village of Paxton, where a house for the teacher and a school-room were built at the expense of the late Mr Home, and by him left for the benefit of the village. The branches of education taught in the parochial school, and in that of Paxton, are, reading English, English grammar, Latin, arithmetic, geometry, writing, &c. In all the schools the scriptures are read daily; and the Shorter Catechism taught. The salary of the parish teacher is the maximum—the situation altogether may be worth from L. 70 to L. 80 per annum. Latin seems almost banished from our parish schools in this county. The fees paid per quarter are, Latin, 7s. 6d., English grammar, 5s., arithmetic, 3s. 6d., writing, 3s. reading, 2s. 6d.

There are few children above eight who cannot read, and, with two or three exceptions, all the adults in the parish are able to do so. Most of them also can write, except a few of the more aged females, in whose younger days this accomplishment was not so common as it is at present. The benefits of education the people fully appreciate, and are anxious to educate their children in a manner suitable to their circumstances. Times must go very hard with them when they neglect this duty. Children of paupers, and those of very circumscribed means, are educated gratuitously by the parish. Ample means of education are provided, and none of the children are at an inconvenient distance from school.

There are two Sabbath schools, attended by young persons of

both sexes, in which they are taught the elements of religious knowledge. The children of one of these schools come regularly to church, and seats are provided for them. They are thus prevented from spending the Lord's day in idleness; and are accustomed to the solemnities of public worship.

Libraries.—There are two small libraries in the parish, the one consisting of miscellaneous books, and the other of books of a religious character.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society was instituted in the parish in 1812, the object of which is to afford pecuniary aid to sick and aged members. The annual payment of each member is 7s. 6d. Funeral expenses are also allowed to members and their widows. There are seventy-four persons who now contribute to it, and its funds, which are laid out at interest, amount to L. 400.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of persons at present receiving parochial aid is 34,—who receive at an average 2s. per week. There are at present several heavy cases on the parish roll, of persons having numerous families, and, of course, receiving more than the ordinary allowance,—thus increasing the average sum. Nineteen on the roll receive from 1s. to 1s. 6d. per week; but there are other families, such as those just mentioned, who receive as high as 4s. 5s. and 6s. per week. The sum required for the maintenance of the poor is raised by assessment on the landlords and tenants, according to the valued rent, with the addition of the church collections. For this purpose, meetings of the heritors and kirk-session are held twice a-year. This parish is not exempted from the peculiar disadvantages with respect to the poor, to which border parishes are exposed. From the difficulty of acquiring a legal settlement in England, many poor persons, after having spent the greater part of their lives on the other side of the Tweed, return, after an absence of twenty, thirty, or forty years, and claim relief from the Scotch parish, where they resided for the last three years before their removal to England. Instances of this kind are of frequent occurrence. The English parishes are very alert in removing persons to Scotland who may probably become burdensome; but the Scots parishes have no such legal right of removing paupers to England. The vicinity to England, where paupers receive a more liberal allowance than in Scotland, has a bad effect upon the poor,—rendering them dissatisfied with their allotted pittance. They are continually referring to the more profuse system of the former country, and hinting at what persons in their condition would receive there. That virtuous pride, which in for-

mer times shrunk from accepting parish relief, is gradually expiring. The people do not consider it as any disgrace to be on the poors' roll; but, in imitation of their southern neighbours, claim the allowance as a right. Instances still occur, however, where the good old feeling is visible, and where aged and infirm persons are averse to have recourse to the parish for relief, till reduced to do so by extreme necessity. Aged unmarried females and widows form the great proportion of the persons receiving parochial aid. Some of these last have numerous families. The sick, aged, and infirm, are the only persons who are admitted on the roll. The heritors, in general, are very liberal to the poor. Their wants are carefully attended to; and here, at least, the system of poor rates has not dried up the springs of private charity.

Inns.—There are eight inns or alehouses in the parish, none of which are much frequented, and one-half of which would be more than sufficient.

Fuel.—The fuel used is coal, which is all brought from the other side of the Tweed, from about three or four miles distance, and at an expense of about 5s. per one horse cart-load, besides driving.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the last Statistical Account, rents have been more than doubled; a taste for reading, and a desire of acquiring useful information, have been more generally diffused; the people are better dressed, and live more comfortably; the salutary influence of education is more extensively felt; and attention to the outward ordinances of religion has not declined.

Since this Statistical Report was written, the building of a new parish church has commenced, and is now proceeding, after a handsome design by an architect of taste, and of sufficient size to afford ample accommodation for the parishioners.

There is also almost a certain prospect of a bridge being soon constructed across the Whitadder, near Hutton mill, connecting this parish with that of Foulden, and opening up greater facilities of communication with the internal parts of the county, and its only *sea-port*, that of Eyemouth. A beautiful plan of a bridge has been furnished by Mr Jardine of Edinburgh, civil-engineer,—for the carrying of which into execution, a subscription has been entered into, and the requisite amount almost obtained. The liberal sum of L. 600 has been subscribed by a considerable heritor of this parish, and several other handsome sums by neighbouring gentlemen. No public improvement was more needed.

July 18, 1834.

UNITED PARISHES OF WHITSOME AND HILTON.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. ADAM LANDELS, MINISTER.*

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE ancient name of *Whitsome* is variously written,—*Whytshoom*, *Whitsum*, *Quitsum*, and *Huitsum*. It is derived from *White* or *Huite*, and *Ham* or *Home*. *Huite* appears as one of the witnesses in Edgar's charter granting the adjoining Swinton to the monks of St Cuthbert. When the charter was confirmed in 1392, the chancery clerk of Robert III. wrote *Qhuite* for *Huite*. The circumstantial evidence is therefore pretty strong, that the parish is indebted for its present designation to the *residence of White*; and thus its origin may be traced to a period anterior to the conquest. The etymology of *Hilton*, indicating a town on or near an eminence, is obvious. The two parishes were united in 1735. Of course, whenever the term "parish" or "Whitsome" occurs in the sequel, it will be understood to include Hilton, except when differently explained.

The extent of the parish in length from east to west is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and in medial breadth $1\frac{3}{4}$. The whole contains $7\frac{3}{4}$ square miles. It presents the figure of an irregular parallelogram, bounded on the east by Hutton; on the south by Ladykirk and Swinton; and on the west and north by Edrom.

The easterly and northerly parts of the parish are generally flat; a belt of low land also stretches along the course of the Leet, while an undulating surface diversifies the remainder. The exact elevation of the highest ground above the level of the sea has not been ascertained, but it is conjectured not to exceed 350 feet.

Geology.—The direction of the strata in this part of the country is always found to be east and south-east, the angle of their dip varying from 15 to 25 degrees. Sandstone is everywhere

* This Account has been drawn up by the Rev. Mr Rennison, Assistant-Minister, with the assistance of Mr Scott of the parochial school.

abundant, and generally forms a bed of 40 feet in thickness, immediately beneath the surface. In the years 1824 and 1825, an attempt was made, by boring, at Myreside quarry, on the estate of Blackadder, to determine whether there existed a coal seam of sufficient quality and magnitude to warrant an expenditure of capital. The result was deemed unfavourable. The information obtained from the person who conducted the experiment on that occasion, enables us to compile the following tabular statement. We retain the local names.

Strata.	Ft.	In.	Strata.	Ft.	In.
1. Red sandstone, . . .	40	6	21. Blaes, . . .	7	6
2. White sandstone, . . .	8	6	22. Hard rock, . . .	2	6
3. Soft marl, . . .	14	0	23. Blaes, . . .	11	7
4. Hard rocky marl, . . .	2	6	24. Very hard blue rock, . . .	1	0
5. Soft slaty marl, . . .	5	6	25. Blaes with blackish particles, . . .	13	0
6. Soft earth, . . .	4	6	26. Limestone strata, irregular, . . .	1	3
7. Hard marl, . . .	5	6	27. Soft slate, . . .	3	3
8. White freestone, . . .	10	0	28. Hard troubled rock, . . .	2	0
9. Strong red clay, . . .	4	6	29. Slate, . . .	7	0
10. Blaes, . . .	16	6	30. Slate and white freestone, . . .	3	4
11. Hard limestone rock, . . .	2	0	31. Coal III.—200 feet 9 inches, . . .		
12. Blaes, . . .	16	8	incalculable, . . .	0	0
13. Hard blue rock, . . .	2	5	32. Blaes and freestone mixed with . . .		
14. Slate, . . .	2	10	a yellow metallic ore, . . .	14	0
15. Hard rock, . . .	4	6	33. and remaining depth consist- . . .		
16. Coal I.—140 feet 5 inches,— . . .			ing of alternate strata of slate, . . .		
extremely thin, . . .	0	0	freestone, limestone, fuller's . . .		
17. Two strata of limestone, with . . .			earth, with very thin layers of . . .		
one-fourth of an inch of gray . . .			coal below the slate and free- . . .		
sand between, . . .	2	3	stone, . . .	145	3
18. Slate, . . .	1	6			
19. Hard limestone. . .	1	9			
20. Coal II.—146 feet 4 inches, . . .	0	5			
			Extreme depth, . . .	360	0

The alluvial soil, to a considerable depth, is replete with vegetable remains, such as oak copsewood, hazel nuts, and the various plants indigenous to the country. On penetrating farther, a species of marl, composed chiefly of shells and plants, is thrown up,—thus demonstrating that the whole track was at an early period under water.

Fir on the inferior soils, and the different kinds of hard wood on the richer, are grown, principally on the estates of Wynnefield, Blackadder, and Laws. They are all in a thriving condition, and, while forming an agreeable ornament to the landscape, will amply remunerate the proprietors. *

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.†—Previous to the Reformation, Whitsome

* For full information on the botanical department, we beg to refer to "A Flora of Berwick-on-Tweed," by George Johnston, M. D., whose high talents, and indefatigable zeal, are devoted to this and other branches of natural history. Dr Johnston's Flora comprehends the counties adjoining Berwick.

† For these notices, with the exception of such as were personally investigated by

and Hilton were rectories. Rauf de Hawden, the parson of Whitsome, and David, the parson of Hilton, among others of the clergy, swore fealty to Edward I. of England at Berwick, on the 24th of August 1296, when their parsonages were restored. In Bagimont's Rolls, the tenth of Whitsome rectory was rated at L. 6, 13s. 4d.; and the *taxatio* at 45 merks. Hilton *taxatio* was set down at 18 merks. — The advowson of Whitsome church has always been annexed to the manor which belonged to the Earls of March and Dunbar; and, after passing through several hands, it is now vested in John Wilson, Esq. of Whitsome Hill.

Together with "Ederham et Nesbitt," Whitsome was granted to the monks of Coldingham by that "sore saint for the crown," David I. of Scotland, and afterwards confirmed to them by William.

Robert I. granted to Roger Pringle half of the lands of Whitsome, the whole of which, valued at 200s. of old extent, had been forfeited by John de Yle.

Thomas Hop Pringle of Smailholm and Galashiels died about the close of the fourteenth century. He was succeeded by his son, Adam Pringle of Whitsome, who married, during his father's lifetime, Marjory Keith, daughter of William Keith, grand Marshal of Scotland. By his marriage he obtained an important accession to his estate, as appears by a charter under the Great Seal from King David Bruce, dated 25th January 1362. This Adam, and many of his successors, attached themselves to the powerful family of Douglas, and shared in the enterprises of the period, doing essential service to that illustrious house, and earning a rich harvest of martial fame. Adam left a son and successor in Robert Pringle of Whitsome, afterwards of Smailholm and Gala. He was a warm patriot, and stood high, while a young man, in favour with the heroic James Earl of Douglas, to whom he acted in the capacity of *scutifer* or *shield-bearer* at Otterburn, the last of his fields. There are still preserved several charters, to the aforesaid Robert, of the different parts of the lands and barony of Smailholm, viz. TERRAS DOMICALES DE SMAILHOLM, *Smailholm Crag*, *the tower of Smailholm*, &c. which were long enjoyed by his posterity; and, as he preferred the designation of Smailholm to that of Whitsome, the former became one of the chief titles of the family.

us, and of those which we have gathered from the popular traditions, we must acknowledge our obligations to *Chalmers' "Caledonia," "Charter Chest of the Family of Harden," Sir David Erskine's "Antiquities of Dryburgh,"* and a manuscript copy of the Charters of Coldingham, in the possession of Mr Alexander Allan Carr, surgeon in Ayton, who has otherwise contributed to our *historical facts*.

In the same year, 1362, David II. also granted to William de Wardlaw two carrucates of land in the manor of Hilton; which, like many other properties in that age, had fallen to the crown by the forfeiture of Adam de Hilton, in consequence of his adherence to the English interest. The remaining half of the lands of Whitsome was conferred by the same monarch on William Colville.

In the month of July 1482, Whitsome was burned and destroyed by the celebrated Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. of England. The following places in Berwickshire suffered a similar fate, viz. Edrington, Fishwick, Paxton, Hutton, Mordington with its bastel, Edrom, East Nesbitt, Kellaw, Kimarghame, the two Syntons and bastel, Simprin, Crossrig, and many others.

To convey some idea of Whitsome *as it was*, it may be noticed, that the range of land on the north side of the village was divided into several small portions, still denominated "lands." Hence, the possessors or occupiers were styled "portioners." "The ten lands" formed the southern part of the present farm of Ravelaw; and "the nine" and "the eight" lay east from the preceding, and are included in the farm of Leetside. The southern side was parcelled out in like manner. The space between the two ranges, of considerable breadth, and upwards of half a mile in length, was enjoyed in common. The portioners were retainers of the Lord of the Manor, to whom, according to custom, they were bound to render military service.—The only vestiges of *common*, the right of the villagers to which is undisputed, consist of two small patches,—the one at the east end of the village, and the other on the north side near the centre. Both are used for bleaching,—a purpose to which they are well adapted by the plentiful supply of water on the grounds. The water proceeds from an excellent spring in the middle of each patch. The former spring derives its name, "The Blind Well," from an obvious casualty which befel a *blind* man: the latter, designated "Reed's Well," is reported to be so called in consequence of one *Reed* having lost his life near the spot, in a scuffle which arose at a fair then holding; and tradition adds, that, owing to this tragical event, the people were deprived of the privilege of holding a fair, nor has it been resumed since the fatal period.—In connection with the origin of names, it may be recorded, that the Blackadder plantations are vulgarly called "The *Pistol* plantings," on account of a gentleman of the neighbourhood, on his way home at an advanced hour of the night, having been fired at from one of the thickets.

Ravelaw is distinguished by having been the temporary residence of the Rev. Henry Erskine after his ejection from Cornhill. During his stay here, he frequently preached at Old Newton, where his ministrations, under the Divine blessing, produced the first serious impressions on the youthful mind of Boston.

It is another incident worthy of note, that when Boston himself once officiated in Whitsome church, which was then thatched, such a multitude flocked from all quarters, that many, in their eagerness to hear him, mounted the roof of the humble edifice, tore off portions of the straw, and thus contrived to gratify both eye and ear. *

The communion cups (of silver) for the service of Whitsome bear that they were—"Gifted by Countess of Home, to the kirk of Whitsome, 1704."

Hilton bell, which had been rung by the hand, is preserved. It has on its rim, in legible characters,—“For Hiltoun, 1718.” It may be regarded as an apt memorial of the kirk to which it ministered, for it has lost the tongue.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners, according to their valued cess, are, John Wilson, Esq. of Whitsome-Hill; David Low, Esq. of Laws, Professor of Agriculture in the University of Edinburgh; Miss Boswall of Blackadder, (Dykegatehead Leet-side, &c.); the most noble the Marquis of Tweeddale, (Ravelaw;) ————of Wynnefield; Robert Brown, Esq. of Old Newton; Henry Trotter, Esq. of Morton-Hall, (Hilton;) ————Forster, Esq. of Jardinefield; John Allan, Esq. of New Newton; James Herriot, Esq. of Herriot Bank; George Taitt, Esq. of Longridge; and Henry Seymour Ker, Esq. of Moriston, (Stridlins.)

* When the tide of persecution ran high, Daniel Douglas was minister of Hilton. There is a popular tradition to the effect, that one day during public worship an individual of the dominant party, offended at certain words which fell from the preacher, laid violent hands upon him, and dragged him from the pulpit. A slight effusion of blood was the consequence, on which the maltreated pastor predicted, in hearing of the congregation, that the cowardly assailant's own blood would yet stain the floor of the sanctuary, and be licked by dogs. It happened soon after, that the person from whom Mr D. suffered such ill usage, received a mortal wound from an enemy. A crowd of attendants proceeded homewards with the corse, but on their way they were overtaken by a storm, which forced them to the nearest shelter,—the kirk of Hilton. They had not long remained beneath the sacred roof, when the dead man's wound broke out afresh, dripped through the bandages, and was actually lapped by some hounds that had accompanied the procession. The truth of the tradition we do not vouch. After the Revolution, previously to which he had taken refuge in Holland, Mr Douglas returned to Hilton, and there continued to exercise the pastoral functions till his decease. He died on the 24th July 1705, at the age of 86. His remains are deposited in Hilton churchyard. Numberless singular stories are current, which, if veritable, stamp him as eccentric in beneficence.—To him succeeded Mr William Wilson, the last of the Hilton clergymen.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest date of the parochial registers is 1724. Till a recent period, births, marriages, and deaths, had never been enrolled in a regular shape. Even now, owing to the absence of an express law on the subject, a complete registration is impracticable. An important desideratum would be supplied by a uniform set of books.

Antiquities.—In a field still known by the name of the *Battle-knowes*, on the farm of Leetside, there are discernible the outlines of a camp. The form is square, and each side measures 42 yards. Its position in the middle of a marsh proves, that in its entire state it has been surrounded with water, and very difficult of access. The entrance or gateway was on the south-east, to which a raised pavement of rough stones led. These were lately dug up and removed. It is supposed to be of Roman origin.—In 1827, on draining some well-springs in an adjoining field, not more than 300 yards distant from the site of the camp, the workmen found a copper kettle, which, (judging from its shape,) in all likelihood belonged to the Roman belligerents. It was conveyed to Blackadder House, where it remains.—In the same vicinity, on the farms of Leethead and Frenchlaw, several stone chests, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length internally, and rudely put together, have been discovered within the last three years. Each chest was composed of six flags, which have since been identified with a natural quarry at Todheugh, five miles distant on the banks of the Whitadder, and on the lid being removed, there were seen the various portions of a human skeleton. The body, when first placed in the coffin, had evidently been doubled, as the skull, with the fore part downwards, lay beside the bones of the feet, and the position of the rest corresponded. From this circumstance it appears, either that the funeral rites had been performed as expeditiously as possible, or that tools for cutting, and means for conveying larger flags, had been wanting; although in one case, at least, the upper and under flags projected over those at the ends and sides. The size of the bones, which were examined by Mr Purvis, surgeon in Whitsome, indicated a stature upwards of six feet. Each chest had also its urn, of unglazed earthenware, and of a triangular shape, the original contents of which had been converted into a quantity of black dust. This vessel stood on the left of the body for an intelligible reason; but it is somewhat strange, that the rude coffin, or rather the corpse within it, lay in a direction of south and north, the urn standing on the west.

So late as 1832, in course of a draining process near the head of a spring on Leetside, a well built round with hewn stone, was laid bare considerably below the surface. It was little more than three feet deep from the mouth. The oldest person living in the parish knew nothing of its existence. It is handed down, however, from the preceding generation, that a row of houses occupied an elevated site close by the well. These houses went by the name of *Temple-Hall*, in consequence, probably, of their connection with some more ancient religious edifice. The *spring* too, had all along been called *The Temple-Well*. *—Numerous *querns*, as in different parts in Scotland, have been met with on the farm of Laws.—It only remains to be here noticed, that till the middle of last century, there was visible on the east of the present school-house a kind of mound—the *Birlie-Knowe* or Justice-Court of by-gone days. Thither the villagers usually repaired, to submit their petty grievances, and ask redress; and there the Birliemen, after hearing parties, pronounced their cheap and sapient decisions.

III.—POPULATION.

Population, as by return to Dr Webster,	in 1755,	399
" "	in 1791,	590
by census in	1801,	560
	1811,	536
	1821,	661
	1831,	664

The increase, on the whole, can only be ascribed to the rapid and extensive improvements in agriculture, since a large portion of the land, which is now in a high state of cultivation, was formerly marshy or otherwise unproductive. The population, during the current year 1833, is ascertained to be 636,—the deficiency, as compared with 1831, being accounted for by the emigration of a few families to Canada,—of which number, 220 reside in the village of Whitsome, and 416 at the various farm home-steads.

1.	Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	-	129
	chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	-	82
	chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	-	26
2.	Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	-	-	9
	of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	-	-	-	16
3.	The average number of births yearly for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	-	-	12½
	of deaths,	-	-	-	-	-	12
	of marriages, } somewhat uncertain,	-	-	-	-	-	4
4.	The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	-	-	277
	betwixt 15 and 30,	-	-	-	-	-	146

* The above designations may, however, owe their origin to the Knights Templar, who are understood to have possessed about forty acres of the land of Myreside, now a portion of the Blackadder estate ; and, till recently, these acres bore the name of " Temple-lands."

The number of persons at present betwixt 30 and 50,	-	-	143
50 and 70,	-	-	52
upwards of 70,	-	-	18

During the last three years there have not been more than two illegitimate births in the parish.

There are only three families of independent fortune resident in the parish ; of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, the number is 11 ; and of resident electors, 18.

Character of the People.—The people enjoy, in a reasonable degree, the comforts and advantages of society ; and though they have an impression that their circumstances might be bettered, they are, meanwhile, contented with their situation. Many of them evince an ardent thirst for sound and practical knowledge. Newspapers and other periodicals are extensively read, nor is there any want of literary, and particularly of theological works, in the cottages of the poorest. Sobriety and industry constitute prominent features in their character : and all, with a few exceptions, are regular in the outward observance of religious duty. Intelligence and Christian sentiment, in short, so generally prevail, that there has been no conviction for capital crime within memory. Poaching and smuggling, those symptoms of a debased and distempered morality, are unknown.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The superficial extent of the parish has been already stated. It may here be added, however, that the total amount of acres, inclusive of roads, fences, and all kinds of land, is 4900. Of these 4520 are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage ; 200 are occupied by roads, fences, and water-courses ; and plantations of wood, comprising the different sorts of forest trees, and kept under excellent management, cover the remaining 180.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per acre is L. 1, 13s. 3d. ; and of grazing an ox or cow for the season, at the rate of L. 3, 12s. ; a ewe or full-grown sheep pastured for the year, at the rate of 16s.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of labour may be estimated by the following description of the various classes of labourers, and of the manner in which they are paid. *First*, the farm-servant, usually hired for the year, is furnished with a cottage, to which is attached a small piece of garden ground. In addition, his gains consist of 10 bolls, equal 60 bushels, of oats ; 4 bolls, equal 24 bushels, of pease and barley ; the potatoe produce of 1000 lineal or drill yards,

and of 500 more given in place of lint, where that is no longer allowed to be grown; a cow's grass; the carriage of coal; and L.3 of sheep money, as it is called. Till lately, a considerable emolument was derived from poultry, for which advantage a sum of 10s., and that only in certain cases, has been substituted. The farm-servant is likewise bound to provide a "bondager," for whose labour, when the latter is employed, he receives from 8d. to 10d. a-day. If any member of his own family is able to do the work, or if the bondager is often required, the circumstance turns out profitably; but it is otherwise, when a person must be engaged for the express purpose, at an expense of L.6, 10s. or L.7 a-year, besides victuals, &c. and the remuneration for whose labour, (supposing it to be interrupted and limited,) falls short of the expense incurred. *Secondly*, the cottar, instead of paying rent for the house and "kail-yard," engages to do harvest work; at every other season, a payment in money, of from 8d. to 10d. per day, is received for each day employed; the cottar also reaps the benefit of as much ground as two bushels of potatoes will plant, together with the carriage of coal. *Thirdly*, the day labourer is paid at the rate of 1s. 6d., except during harvest, when he can realize about 2s. 6d. daily.—The rate of other labour is, for joiners, 2s. 4d., for masons, 2s. 6d., for tailors, 1s. 6d., with victuals, per day, respectively. The smith is paid 5d. per pound of wrought-iron, and the road-maker 1s. 4d. per cubic yard of stones broken to size.

Husbandry.—Very few sheep or cattle are bred in the district, almost all of them being purchased at the different markets. In husbandry both the four and five-shift systems are pursued. Owing to the high price of stock, the latter is gaining ground, and indeed it is recommended by practical agriculturists as the better system for general adoption. The interests of agriculture have been vastly promoted by the introduction of thrashing-mills, of which there are twelve, four driven by steam, one by water, one by wind, and six by horse-power; and within the last twenty years, immense improvements have been effected in reclaiming waste land, &c. Some intelligent men are of opinion, that draining might be carried to a greater extent with much advantage, if facilities were afforded by the erection of a tile and brick kiln in the neighbourhood, as it is now difficult to obtain a sufficient quantity of stones for the purpose. Little more than a quarter of a century ago, a considerable portion of the now fertile farms of Dykegatehead, Wynnefield, Leetside, and others, was overflowed. Much praise is due to the

present tenants and their immediate predecessors for the skilful management and persevering zeal with which they have prosecuted the work of amelioration. And it ought not to pass unnoticed, that the most remarkable results have ensued, when the leases, the general duration of which is nineteen or twenty-one years, have been framed on liberal principles. But nothing can more clearly demonstrate the rapid advance of agriculture in the parish of Whitsome, than a comparison of the gross rental at two given periods. At the date of the former Statistical Account, it amounted to L. 3080, whereas at present it is L. 7526, exclusive of about L. 80, the valued rental of feued houses in the village, and of the sums realized by 180 acres of wood.

Improvements.—To illustrate the progress of cultivation by an example, and to prove the expediency of accommodating the several grades of capitalists, it may be mentioned, that South Laws, the property of Professor Low, from being a continuous moor, not worth 2s. 6d. an acre, is now a flourishing tract, yielding a rent of 18s. per acre. The whole, containing only eighty acres, is divided into three portions; and these, in the hands of the same number of tenants, present, with their numerous hedge-rows and thriving plantations, a garden-like aspect.—During the current season, George Taitt, Esq. of Longridge, has tried an experiment altogether new in this part of the country; on the more extensive adoption and ultimate success of which may depend important consequences both to proprietors and to the labouring classes. By trenching a small field, at a cost of L. 4, 10s. an acre, and then sowing it in barley, instead of leaving it fallow, as it must have been, according to the usual rotation, above an average crop of good quality was the produce.

The farm-houses are neat and commodious, and many of them finished in a superior style.—The cottages, more recently erected, are convenient and comfortable; while the rest are cold, damp, and in a miserable state of repair. This may be ascribed to two causes,—the non-residence of landlords, and the mode in which an incoming tenant takes all the buildings off his predecessor's hand, who is merely under the obligation to leave the cottages *habitable*, a term which needs no comment. As suitable plans have been submitted to the Highland Society, it is to be hoped that the humble dwellings of our rural population will ere long be constructed on a somewhat uniform principle, and with such a regard to internal comfort, if not to outward ornament, as to place them more

nearly on a level with those of England.—The enclosures are laid out with taste, and afford evidence that practical farming in this part of the country keeps pace with modern improvement.

Quarries.—Several quarries of freestone are found in the parish. The principal is that of Whitsome (Old) Newton, situate at the southern extremity of the parish. Its stone is of the best quality, and can be raised to any size. Out of it the chief edifices in Berwickshire have been built, and its excellence is duly appreciated in the neighbouring counties.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce is valued at, viz.

Grain of all kinds,	-	-	-	-	L. 11472	10	0
Potatoes and turnips cultivated in the fields,	-	-	-	-	1512	0	0
Hay,	-	-	-	-	1000	0	0
Land in pasture, at L. 3, 12s. per cow, or full-grown ox, grazed for the season, and at 16s. per ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured for the year,	-	-	-	-	2284	4	0
Gardens,	-	-	-	-	50	0	0
The annual thinning and periodical felling of woods, plantations, &c.	-	-	-	-	200	0	0
Quarries,	-	-	-	-	80	0	0
Miscellaneous articles,	-	-	-	-	150	0	0
Total yearly value of raw produce raised,					L. 16748	14	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The village, for there is but one, lies in a direction of east and west, and, exclusive of the farm-houses and cottages of Herriot Bank and Leetside, consists of seventeen houses, feued from the Blackadder estate, seven cottages on the property of Whitsome-hill,—the school-house, on the highest part of Hardie's-hill,—the church, on the western declivity of the same eminence,—and the manse at a short distance, also situated on a gently rising ground.

The nearest market-towns are Dunse, seven miles distant towards the west, Coldstream eight miles south, and Berwick ten miles north-east. At all of these places, monthly markets are held for sheep and cattle, and weekly for corn. Berwick, however, being a sea-port, is the chief grain-mart.

Means of Communication, &c.—From Whitsome a carrier proceeds once a-week, to Dunse on Wednesday, to Edinburgh on Friday, and to Berwick on Saturday. Letters are transmitted through the post at Swinton, which lies at a distance of three miles. The length of the parish roads is $12\frac{5}{8}$ miles, and of those under trust, $3\frac{1}{2}$. They are kept in repair by converted statute-labour, the annual amount of which is L. 54, 1s. 6d. This sum is levied on nineteen masters at 3s.; fifty-five servants at 3s.; thirteen cottagers at 1s. 6d.; 108 horses at 7s. 6d.; and 8 mares in foal at 3s. 9d. each.

Small bridges and conduits have been thrown over all the water-courses; which formerly crossed the public roads at numerous points, and often rendered them impassable during heavy rains, and in winter. The fences are formed of quickset hedges, those being in the best order, which are maintained at the joint expense of landlord and tenant.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the present church is convenient for all the inhabitants. It stands at the west end of the village, almost exactly in the centre, and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles from either extremity of the parish. It was built in 1803 on Hardie's-hill, and fronts the south-east. From the recent date of its erection, no repairs of importance have yet been required. It is matter of regret, however, that on the renewal of the church in the above year, sufficient accommodation was not provided for the whole body of the people. The entire number of lineal feet of seating is 344, which, at a moderate calculation, affords room for only 250 persons. According to custom, too, the seats, besides being limited, were divided amongst the several heritors in proportion to their valued cess. By this means, it happens that the largest space is not always allotted to the proprietor who has the greatest number of residents on his estates.—The original walls of the manse have stood from time immemorial; at least neither verbal intelligence nor written record can be procured, from which to determine the period of its erection. It must be observed, however, that numerous alterations and additions have imparted to the structure a good deal of the air of a modern house.—The glebe of Whitsome (alone) contains 11 acres, and that of Hilton 19, estimated at L. 2 per acre. The stipend, as augmented in 1820, is 16 chalders of barley and oatmeal, 2 bolls of wheat, and L. 8, 7s. 4d. in money.

There are 85 families, comprising 422 persons of all ages, in connection with the Established church; while 40 families, comprising 214 persons of all ages, attach themselves to chapels of Presbyterian Dissenters and Seceders in neighbouring parishes. From this statement it appears, that the adherents of the kirk have decreased, since the date of last Statistical Account, from eleven-twelfths to two-thirds, or thereabouts, of the whole population.*

* Since last year, 1833, when the above statement was drawn up, and a census of the population taken, the following changes have been ascertained:

	Present No.	Loss.	Gain.
Families, - - -	123	2	
Inhabitants, - - -	610	26 by emigration.	
Persons of all ages in connection with church,	438		16
Persons of all ages who are Dissenters,	172	42	

Whence it appears that, notwithstanding a decrease of 26 in the population, the Esta-

Still of late years, there has been a gradual and sensible return to the Establishment. The average number of church communicants may be reckoned at 200, more or less.

A branch of the Berwickshire Bible Society was instituted in 1816, under the auspices of the late Thomas Boswall, Esq. of Blackadder. Its annual contributions average L. 5. A Temperance Society also originated in 1831; it counts thirty members. The collections in church for religious and charitable purposes have not exceeded L. 20 during the last seven years; and they were made in aid of the Assembly's Highland Schools, the Assembly's India Mission, the Scottish Missionary Society, and the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

Education.—There are two schools in Whitsome, one parochial, and one unendowed. In both, English, writing, arithmetic, and practical mathematics are taught; and in the former, the Latin, Greek, and French languages, with the principles of general knowledge, form additional branches. The Scriptures and Shorter Catechism hold a prominent place in the course of Instruction, which in its character is the Intellectual system, modified to suit circumstances. The salary annexed to the Established school is the maximum, viz. 2 chalders of oatmeal, valued at L. 34, 4s. 4½d. and the fees amount to L. 26, 10s. The children of poor families are taught *gratis*. The teacher has all the legal accommodations, the ground connected with which was presented to the heritors by the Earl of Wemyss. The master of the other school is dependent solely on the fees, which amount to L. 29, 15s. The expense of education is, for reading, 3s.; for writing, 4s.; for arithmetic, 5s.; and for Latin, &c. 8s. 6d. per quarter. Not more than three quarters and a-half in the year can be reckoned on. As the people are keenly alive to the benefits of education, there is no instance of any, whether young or old, who are destitute of elementary instruction. The more rapid and extensive diffusion of useful knowledge, however, might be facilitated, were it not that the humbler families find it extremely difficult to procure the necessary books; and the most estimable boon which an enlightened beneficence could confer, would arise from an addition to the parochial endowments with a special reference to the wants noticed, and with a security, that those wants should be supplied. Certain it is, that the most intelligent, well-informed, and religious individuals, are

blished church has gained an accession of 16. In 1833, the Dissenters amounted to one-third plus 2 of the parishioners: in 1834, their entire number is one-third minus 31½ of the whole.

at the same time the most industrious, orderly, and loyal subjects. This remark is the result of personal and daily observation.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—In 1775, the legal assessment for the poor was L. 13. It varied little till 1800, when, owing to the deficiency of crop, and the consequent rise in the price of provisions, it was L. 78, 12s. Before the shock of that year had subsided, the pressure of 1816 commenced, and another rise in the assessment ensued, which in 1818 was L. 201, 6s. From that date it gradually diminished, and in the present year, ending at Martinmas 1833, it is L. 115, 19s. Out of this sum various expenses, including an item of L. 8 for enabling a pauper to emigrate to Canada, are paid, so that the gross amount remaining for the poor regularly on the roll is L. 88, 12s. The number of persons now receiving parochial aid is 18; and therefore the average sum allotted to each, L. 4, 18s. 5½d. annually, or 1s. 10¾d. weekly. The church collections furnish yearly about L. 6, which by courtesy are left at the disposal of the minister and session for the relief of incident cases. The poor here enjoy the advantage of a soup-kitchen maintained at Allanton by the liberality of Mrs Boswall, who also distributes amongst them every winter a quantity of coal and clothing. Nor should we omit to mention, that in 1829 the sum of L. 20 was left by the late Mrs Hogarth of Hilton, the interest of which, agreeably to the wishes of the donor, is expended in the purchase of Bibles for children, whose parents are in necessitous circumstances. The heritors, in their collective capacity, kindly allow five per cent. for the principal. It is, moreover, worthy of being recorded, that, on the occurrence of casual distress in families, arising out of loss of property or domestic bereavements, all classes in the parish are distinguished for the cordial sympathy which they evince, and the liberal benefactions which they make, in behalf of the sufferers. And this, too, seems to be done in approval, and for the nurture, of that independent feeling which operates almost universally as a preventive to their applying for parochial aid. Where ignorance and habits subversive of economy prevail, recourse is had to any available quarter for pecuniary means; but with us the disposition to refrain from seeking relief in the sources provided by law, is strong as it is honourable. But often, when old age or unavoidable infirmities generate the necessity of securing a regular and continued sustenance, an application is reluctantly made.

Inns.—Two inns have sprung up in the course of the last seven years, previous to which there had been none for a long period. Their existence cannot but be deprecated.

Fuel.—Coal constitutes the common fuel. It is brought from Northumberland, (the distance to the nearest colliery being about nine miles,) and costs from 7d. to 8d. a cwt. A few cart-loads of cuttings, &c. from the adjoining plantations prove very serviceable.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The more striking variations betwixt the present state of the parish and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account are,—the demolition of the houses and cottages on the farms of Deadrigg, Cartrigg, Myreside, and Leethead; the first and second being annexed to Whitsome-hill, the third to Dykegatehead, and the fourth to Blackadder Bank:—a wider spread of knowledge, and a higher degree of refinement amongst all ranks:—a great addition to the quantity of arable land:—the rise of flourishing plantations and hedge-rows:—the levelling and Macadamizing of the public roads:—the introduction of more powerful thrashing-machinery:—an improved mode of husbandry:—and the erection of a new church.

A change from the four to the five-shift system,—a facility of obtaining tiles for drains,—and an extension of liberal policy on the part of landlords, would tend to promote the interests of agriculture; while a stricter regard to cottage accommodations,—the removal of every thing that depresses the remuneration of labour below a reasonable standard,—the allotment of small pieces of land to deserving householders, to be cultivated by the spade,—and a provision for effectually supplying the schools with appropriate sets of books,—are means which appear to us well calculated to encourage and advance industry, and to increase the comfort, independence, and happiness of the labouring-classes.

July 1834.

PARISH OF LADYKIRK.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. GEORGE H. ROBERTSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—THE ancient name of this parish was Upsetlington. “The parish of Upsetlington took its name,” says Chalmers, (*Caledonia*, Vol. ii. p. 361,) “from the Kirktown, which stands on the northern margin of the Tweed, somewhat higher than Norham, on the opposite bank.” The origin of the name is obscure. In 1500, James IV. erected a new church for this parish, which he dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and hence, in after times, the parish became known by the name of Ladykirk, although part of it still retains the ancient appellation of Upsetlington. Ladykirk comprehends the parishes of Horn-dene and Upsetlington, which were united at the Reformation for the enlargement of the minister’s stipend. “The name of the parish of Horndene,” says Chalmers, (*Caledonia*, Vol. ii. p. 361,) “is peculiarly Saxon. *Horn* in the Anglo-Saxon tongue signifies a corner, and *dene*, a vale,”—an appellation remarkably descriptive of the site of that part of the parish, lying in a corner, and in a valley sloping towards the Tweed.

The parish is bounded on the south by the river Tweed; on the north, by the parish of Whitsome; on the east, by that of Hutton; and on the west, by that of Swinton. It is three miles long, and one broad, and contains about 3100 English acres. The country is flat, with a few rising-grounds.

Climate.—This parish, lying along the banks of the Tweed, and sloping to the south, is considerably milder in climate than the country to the north and east, the frost being less severe than on the higher grounds, and the parching east winds which prevail in the spring moderated by its distance from the coast. There is no prevailing disease peculiar to the parish; and it is generally healthy,—many of its inhabitants attaining to an advanced age.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The parish is marked, along the

banks of the Tweed to the east and westward, by nearly horizontal strata of white compact micaceous sandstone, containing impressions of fossil monocotyledonous and apparently dicotyledonous vegetables, which alternate with schistose marls, and a dark-coloured impure limestone; towards the western extremity of the parish, a red-coloured variety of sandstone occurs, forming a continuation of the strata of a similar rock which is quarried in the adjoining parish of Swinton.

Botany.—There are three rare Scottish plants found on Holywell-haugh, viz. *Cichorium intybus* (wild succory;) *Lactuca virosa* (strong-scented lettuce;) and *Inula dysenterica* (common flea-bane.)

The trees which appear most congenial to the soil are the oak and the plane. In many places, after forty years' growth, the tops of the elm and the ash begin to decay, in consequence of the roots reaching the subsoil, which is of a cold till.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Mention is made of this parish in Chalmers' Caledonia, in Ridpath's Border History, and in manuscripts in possession of the Dean and Chapter of Durham. The supplemental treaty to that of Chateau Cambreses between the English and Scotch was concluded within the church. On the 2d of June 1291, eight of the competitors for the Crown, with several of the prelates, nobles, and community of Scotland, assembled on Holywell-haugh, opposite to Norham Castle, to settle with Edward I. the dispute relative to the succession. (*Vide*, Border History, p. 174.)

Land-owners.—The principal land-owner is Miss Robertson of Ladykirk, who succeeded her grandfather, Mr Robertson, in 1830, and is still a minor.

Parochial Registers.—The greater part of the parish records has been destroyed. One book, however, remains, the first entry in which is dated 1697; at that period, these records appear to have been kept very confusedly,—births, marriages, and deaths being intermingled with meetings of kirk-sessions. The records have been kept regularly only since the induction of the late schoolmaster in 1817.

Antiquities, &c.—In what is called the Chapel Park, a little lower down the river than Upsetlington, a few large stones, and the superior richness of the soil, mark where the ancient monastery stood. Near the spot are three springs of excellent water, over which the late proprietor of the grounds erected pillars, inscribing on them the appellation of the Nun's, the Monk's, and St Mary's

Well. In a field opposite to Norham Castle, numerous cannon-balls have been found.

Modern Buildings.—The only mansion-house in the parish is Ladykirk House,—a modern building. Within the grounds there is a mausoleum erected by the late proprietor; but he afterwards requested to be entombed within the walls of the church, where others of his family have been buried, and the mausoleum remains unoccupied.

III.—POPULATION.

By return to Dr Webster in 1755, the population was	-	386
By census in 1811,	-	535
1821,	-	527
1831,	-	485
By a census taken by the present incumbent in 1834,	-	455

This diminution of population since the year 1821 is to be attributed to the death of the late Mr Robertson of Ladykirk, who gave employment to numerous labourers, in improving and beautifying his property, and also to the numbers who have emigrated to Canada.

There are residing in the village of Horndene, 128; in Upsetlington, 111.

The only family of independent fortune residing in the parish is that of Mr Robertson of Ladykirk.

Number of unmarried men, (bachelors and widowers,) upwards of 50 years of age,	10
unmarried women upwards of 45,	16
families in the parish,	108
chiefly employed in agriculture,	54
in trade, manufactures, and handicraft,	35

There are no insane, blind, deaf, or dumb, persons in the parish, and only two who may be denominated fatuous.

Habits and Character of the People.—The inhabitants of the parish are honourably distinguished by those habits and characteristics which generally prevail throughout the agricultural districts of Scotland. They are cleanly, sober, industrious, and contented. They live comfortably, and in friendly intercourse with each other, and are anxious to afford a good education to their children.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—There are 3100 acres of imperial measure in the parish; about fifty of which are under plantation.

Rent of Land.—The average value of the arable land is L. 1, 13s. per acre. The average rate of grazing is L. 4 per ox or cow grazed, and 12s. per ewe.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of wages for farm-labourers is 9s.

a-week in winter, and averages 11s. in summer; 15s. for masons and carpenters.

Husbandry.—Generally speaking, the rotation of crop is to have two years' pasture, and to sow down with the crop succeeding the fallow or turnips. There is, however, a peculiarity in this parish very unusual in the low districts in Scotland, viz. that nearly one-fourth part of the whole land is in perennial pasture, generally speaking of the finest quality, and capable of fattening oxen of the largest size; and, by a deed of entail by the late Mr Robertson of Ladykirk, it cannot be ploughed up.

In the year 1788, this gentleman, remarking the superior qualities of a beautiful description of cattle in the possession of a few yeomen and farmers in the county of Durham, particularly the late Messrs Collings, purchased seventeen of them, which were considered to be the best of the breed, and fixed an extra price on this kind of cattle now so celebrated. One of the cows thus brought to Ladykirk appears to have possessed extraordinary properties; and from her the whole existing race of short-horns have descended. Her name was Strawberry, bought from a Mr Mainard by C. Colling. She produced the famous bull Bolingbroke, and was sister to old Phoenix, from whence sprung Favourite, Comet, &c. The latter bull sold at 1000 guineas, and the blood is now universally diffused throughout the kingdom. The sheep are of the Leicester breed, and great attention is paid to this description of stock.

The general duration of leases is nineteen or twenty-one years. The farm-buildings are generally commodious, and the enclosures well preserved.

Fisheries.—There are three stations for salmon-fishing, and the rent of the whole at present is L. 100 per annum, which is about one-half the former rent, the quantity of the fish having greatly decreased.

Average Gross Amount of Raw Produce.—

Grain, 960 acres, at L. 7 per acre,	-	L. 6720	0	0
Turnips and potatoes, 120 acres, at L. 5 per acre,	-	600	0	0
Fallow, 360 acres.				
Hay, 360 acres, at L. 5 per acre,	-	1800	0	0
Pasture, 600 acres, at L. 1 per acre,	-	600	0	0
Perennial grass, 700 acres, at L. 2 per acre,	-	1400	0	0
Gardens and orchards,	-	60	0	0
Thinnings of woods,	-	50	0	0
Fisheries,	-	100	0	0
		<hr/>		
		L. 11,390	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-town, &c.—Coldstream, seven miles distant, is the nearest

market-town. The parish is, however, chiefly supplied with articles of consumption from Berwick, nine miles distant, by a carrier weekly. There is a branch penny post every day from Coldstream to Ladykirk, obtained in consequence of a petition got up by the present incumbent.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated nearly in the centre of the parish, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile from each extremity. It is built in the form of a cross, is a handsome and substantial structure, of Gothic architecture, and is composed of lofty freestone arches in the interior, and is covered with a stone roof. It has, however, been as much as possible disfigured by modern bad taste. As notified by a Latin inscription in the interior of the church, it was repaired by Mr Robertson of Ladykirk in 1743; and a belfry was then added, which is not at all in unison with the building. From the interior of the church a school-room has been portioned off, much to the injury of its appearance. Although situated on a rising ground, which commands an extensive view, (instead of being permitted to stand alone as an ornament to the country,) it is closely surrounded by a ruinous farm-stead. It is seated for 300 persons, and affords ample accommodation for the parishioners. It is also rendered comfortable in winter by two stoves.

The manse was built about sixty years ago. After the accession of the present incumbent in 1819, the heritors and minister repaired and added to it. Like most manses, especially old ones, having been wretchedly finished at first, (doubtless according to the cheapest estimate,) it has been and ever will be, a continual occasion of expense to both. More has been already expended on repairs than would have built a commodious new house; and it shakes from the foundation with every blast.

The glebe contains eleven acres of land, of very good quality, has been lately drained and improved, and would let at present for about L. 2, 10s. per acre. The amount of the stipend is six chalders in grain, and L. 88, 2s. 8d. in money, and averages about L. 170 per annum. All the teinds are valued and exhausted.

There is one dissenting chapel in the parish, belonging to the Burghers. The minister is paid from seat rents, and the salary amounts to L. 118 per annum, with a house and garden. There are 63 families, or 272 individuals (children included) who attend the Established church. There are 45 families, or 183 individuals (children included) who attend the dissenting chapel. Divine service is well and regularly attended. The average num-

ber of communicants at the Established church, for the last five years, is 170 ; for the five years preceding, 160. The average amount of the church collections is from L. 5 to L. 6 per annum, the greater part of which is expended in the payment of church officers.

Education.—There is only one school in the parish, viz. the parochial school, where Greek, Latin, French, and the more usual branches of education, are taught. The salary of the schoolmaster, unfortunately, is the minimum, amounting to L. 25, 13s. 3½d. ; the school fees average about the same sum, to which may be added L. 15 arising from other sources. The rate of school fees was fixed by the heritors in 1817, and is the same as in the neighbouring parishes. There are four or five persons upwards of 6 years of age who cannot read ; none, upwards of 15.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid, for the last five years, is 18, and the average sum allotted to each is 2s. per week, which, together with occasional supplies, amounts to about L. 100 per annum. This is derived from a cess paid by the heritors and tenants. There appears to be little or no feeling of degradation among the poor in soliciting parochial aid : nearly all apply as soon as they think it will be granted.

Fairs.—There is a fair held on the 5th of April, where linen and lintseed are the principal articles of sale.

Alehouses.—There are three alehouses in the parish ; two would be amply sufficient ; but the people being generally of sober habits, any evil effects from them are scarcely perceptible.

Fuel.—Coal is the only description of fuel used in the parish ; it is brought from North Durham, five miles distant, and is purchased at the rate of 7s. a ton at the coal-pit.

August 1834.

UNITED PARISHES OF SWINTON AND SIMPRIN.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JAMES LOGAN, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE parishes of Swinton and Simprin were united by the annexation of Simprin in 1761. The word “Swinton” seems to have undergone no change since the earliest periods of Scottish history; and like *Swine-wood*, the ancient name of an adjacent tract of land, it may have been connected with the prevalence in this district of wild boars, with which the whole of the country is understood to have been formerly infested. Simprin, there is sufficient evidence, is not a modern name; but neither tradition nor any historical notice throw light upon its etymology.

The united parishes form a sort of trailing oblong figure, (the boundary lines of which are very irregularly indented) of about 4 miles in length from east to west, by 3 or $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles in breadth. The surface, neither perfectly level, nor yet at all hilly, consists of a succession of low, parallel, wave-like ridges; ranging from east to west, with interjacent level spaces of considerable extent.

Climate.—The climate of Swinton may perhaps be characterized as rather humid; but scarcely, if at all, more so now, than that of the contiguous parishes. A considerable improvement in this respect seems to have taken place since the period of the last Statistical Account. Ague, which is mentioned by Mr Cupples as being a very prevalent disorder then, owing to the excessive dampness of both earth and air, is now almost unknown,—one instance only having occurred during the last seventeen years.

Hydrography.—There are no peculiar, and but few good, springs in the parish. They flow through a deep bed of tenacious clay, lying upon sandstone; and, as there is nowhere any considerable elevation, are apt to be impure, and, unless where sunk to a great depth, to fail in summer during a drought. A loch of considerable extent, called “*Swinton Loch*,” has been drained since 1700.

There is only one stream, and that inconsiderable,—the Leet, which rises in the neighbouring parish of Whitsome, and passes through Swinton in a westerly direction, to fall, after a course of ten or eleven miles, into the Tweed at Coldstream.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The whole parish forms part of the new red sandstone formation, which may be traced throughout a considerable portion of the Merse or lower district of Berwickshire. The rocks, disposed in strata which dip to the south, consist of white sandstone and a dark sandstone slate, with alternating beds of indurated marl. This arrangement appears to extend to the Tweed, and to rest immediately upon the coal formation of Northumberland; it is interrupted, however, on the eastern boundary, by rocks, apparently of the coal formation, white sandstone disposed in horizontal strata, and containing calamite with impressions of salices. A coarse red micaceous sandstone, accompanied with a white variety, is quarried in several parts of the parish. The lower surface of this rock has not been reached, though it has been bored to the depth of thirty fathoms.

The boulders, or loose minerals which occur in the fields, besides sandstone, are of greywacke and transition granite and greenstone, which appear to have been conveyed from the hills to the north of Dunse, a distance of about eight miles.

The soil is in general deep and very productive; but as it lies upon a strong impervious clay, it is liable, where drains do not prevent, to be wet or almost miry during long-continued rains in winter, and in dry summers it has sometimes suffered severely from want of moisture.

Botany.—Though not rich in a botanical sense, the parish possesses several interesting plants. Among the rarer and more beautiful are the *Senecio tenuifolius*,* the *Alisma ranunculoides*, the *Cerastium arvense*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Hyoscyamus niger*, *Lactuca virosa*, *Solanum dulcamara*, *Trollius Europæus*, *Typha latifolia*, *Cnidium solaris*, *Spergula nodosa*, *Arum maculatum*, *Berberis vulgaris*, *Rumex sanguineus*, *Tormentilla reptans*, *Plantago maritima*, *Ranunculus arvensis*, *Parnassia palustris*, *Leontodon palustre*, *Lysimachia vulgaris*, and *Galium boreale*.

Of the mosses the *Bryum ligulatum* has been collected on fine fruit, and the felices are the common *Aspidium felix mas*.

No natural wood is to be found in the parish; but the planted wood,

* This plant, gathered in this parish, was added to the British Flora, a few years ago, by the Rev. Mr Baird of Cockburnspath.

which is of oak, ash, or elm, with a few firs, appears to be well adapted to the soil. There are some fine trees near Swinton-House, but the great proportion of the wood over the parish is not more than fifty or sixty years old. At the Restoration the whole of this property, forfeited to the Crown, came into the possession of the Duke of Lauderdale by a grant of Charles II. and continued in his hands until the Revolution in 1688. Among other measures of spoliation he is said to have caused the whole of the wood upon the lands to be cut, excepting one tree, a beautiful and very large ash, which was blown down, between twenty and thirty years ago. As the most of the wood now growing has been planted along the hedge-rows, it shelters and adorns the fields, and gives a wooded appearance to the district greatly beyond the reality.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Brief notices respecting the parish are met with in the border histories; and from these, it would seem to have participated fully in the condition, both political and moral, of the tract of country in which it lies, during the long period of hostilities which extended with few interruptions from the time of its separation from the Saxon kingdom of Northumberland until its reunion with England.* The parish presents no natural impediment to an invading force, and it does not appear to have been ever protected by any considerable stronghold.† The inhabitants, afflicted, therefore, by the precariousness which such an exposure implies, would soon become unsettled in their habits, disinclined to, as well as prevented from, the avocations of regular industry, until they came, as a matter of course, to study not more retaliation than the means of support, in visiting upon their enemies evils which had blasted to themselves the hopes of autumn, or had otherwise deprived them of advantages to which they might feel that they had a rightful claim.‡

* In one of the earliest notices which we have of Swinton, it seems to have lapsed from a state of culture, the condition probably in which it was under its last Northumbrian monarch into a waste and desert state,—for which Edgar, son of Malcolm Canmore, presents it to Coldingham Abbey. He presents along with it *twenty-four beasts to till it anew*.

† The remains of a fosse, which can still be traced in the church-yard, are the only vestige now extant, of a state of warlike operations.

‡ The last time that we hear of its having formed the scene of a hostile encounter was on Whitsunday of 1558. Sir Henry Percy, brother to the Earl of Northumberland, and the Marshal of Berwick, overran the Merse with 8000 foot, and 200 horse, burnt Dunse and Langton, and were overtaken at Swinton on their return by the Scottish forces under the Lord Keith, son of the Earl Mareschal and by the French troops, who were lying at Kelso and Eyemouth, for the defence of the marches. After an obstinate engagement, the English made good their retreat with all their plunder—the Scottish troops being almost wholly slain, or made prisoners.

Such habits, when fully formed among a people, do not pass away immediately upon the removal of their causes, and it was not, therefore, until long after the union of the crowns, that the productive energies of this fine portion of Scotland appear to have begun to be adequately cultivated by a skilful and settled husbandry.

Family of Swinton.—But the most interesting fact connected with the civil history of this parish is that of its having formed, with only two very brief interruptions, the *property of one family since the days of the Heptarchy, till the present time*. Authentic history furnishes us with no account of the origin of the family of Swinton of Swinton. It is found in this place, and appears to have been in prior possession of it shortly after the incorporation of this district with the kingdom of Scotland. About 1060, Edulf de Swinton, who had assisted Malcolm Canmore to recover the Scottish throne, obtained from that monarch a confirmation of the property of the whole parish of Swinton, by one of the first charters granted in Scotland, and which is still preserved in the Archives of Durham. The estate seems after this to have been alienated from the family during the period of the reigns of Edgar and Alexander, his sons, as each of these sovereigns present the lands of Swinton to Coldingham priory.* It was restored to them, however, by the youngest son of Malcolm—David, who grants two charters in their favour of the lands of Swinton, “to be held as freely as any baron held theirs.”†

Of the succeeding members of the family, several are mentioned with distinction by the English and Scottish chroniclers. To the valour of ‡ Sir John Swinton in particular, Fordun chiefly

* It may be regarded as a proof of the strong right which is founded upon long possession, that the church had to give up this property. They would seem indeed, never to have had undisturbed possession of it—for Alexander in 1107 along with his confirmation to St Cuthbert and his monks, of the whole lands of Swinton, forbids the prior and monks of *Durham* to answer in any place relating to these lands, unless in his presence and by his orders.—*Bede, Hist., Smith's Appendix 20*.

† Anderson's Inquiry, Chart. Durham. A stone statue of Allan Swinton, the fifth baron, lies in an arched open niche of the south wall of the parish church, on the right hand of the pulpit with this inscription: “Hic jacet Alanus Swinton miles de Eodem.” This Allan is witness to a deed by Patrick Earl of March, to Nisbet of Dirleton, and to several by William the Lion.

‡ There is in Rymer, (1400) a safe conduct to this Sir John and his retinue for coming to the presence of Henry II., then in the north. He seems to have been disgusted at the undue power which Douglas enjoyed, and to have intended to join in the defection of the Earl of March, who had transferred his allegiance to the English king, in consequence of the breaking off of the match between his daughter and the Duke of Rothsay, in order to prefer the daughter of his rival, Douglas. Sir J. Swinton had either not effected this journey, or he had speedily withdrawn his homage—for his death at Hamilton took place two years after.

attributes the victory at Otterburn; and his heroic death at the battle of Hamildon, after having vainly endeavoured to restore order among the Scottish troops, has furnished Sir W. Scott, (himself a relation of the family,) with the subject of his dramatic sketch of "*Halidon Hill*." This Sir John married a daughter of King Robert II., and his son by that lady appears to have signalized his prowess in the wars of France. He is mentioned as having unhorsed the Duke of Clarence, brother to Henry V. at the battle of Berranger.

In Rymer, there is the bond of a Sir John Swinton, who, with many others, engages at Edinburgh to assist the king (James VI.) against the Earls of Bothwell and Hume, and all who aided and abetted their rebellion.

During the reign of Charles I., the proprietor of Swinton supported the side of the Parliament, and enjoyed subsequently the favour and confidence of Cromwell, having been appointed by him, upon the arrangement of Scottish affairs, a privy-councillor and a commissioner for the administration of justice. At the restoration, he was accused of having borne arms against the king in the battle of Worcester, and on this charge, though unsupported by evidence, his estate was forfeited, and he was driven, with his family, into exile. His son returned at the Revolution in 1688, and obtained shortly afterwards an act of Parliament rescinding his forfeiture, and restoring to him the lands of Swinton "*per modum justiciæ*,"—of which his descendants have since enjoyed the undisturbed possession.

Among the modern proprietors of the estate of Swinton, we are called upon to notice particularly the grandfather of the late possessor, John Swinton, Esq. for some time sheriff of Perthshire, and afterwards one of the Senators of the College of Justice. The country is indebted to Lord Swinton's suggestion for the division of the Court of Session into two separate chambers. He was a zealous and influential advocate for the introduction into Scotland of trial by jury in civil causes; he was the originator of the small debt court; he gave to the world an accurate and useful abridgement of British statutes since the Union; and it is the curious and valuable information on weights and measures, which he published in his elaborate treatise upon that subject, which forms the basis of the late act of Parliament for effecting their uniformity throughout the kingdom. To his professional and literary attain-

ments, Lord Swinton added a thorough knowledge of country business, and was distinguished by activity and benevolence of character.

It is a remarkable fact, especially when we keep in mind the insecure state of this portion of the country for many ages, that the estate of Swinton has descended *lineally* from father to son for not less than 27 generations, comprising a period of almost 800 years.

It is now in the possession of Samuel Swinton, Esq. a nephew of the late Lord Swinton, who, by draining to a large extent, and other judicious measures, has greatly improved the property, while he has shown himself most solicitous to promote the comfort and well-being of the labouring poor.

Other Land-owners.—The parish of Simprin also appears, until very lately, to have been in the possession of an old and powerful family, Cockburn of Langton; but as they do not seem ever to have had a place of residence within its bounds, it may be improper to enter upon their history in this statement. The lands of Simprin were sold, in consequence of their affairs having fallen into disorder, in 1755, to Lord Elibank, and are now the property of Patrick Murray, Esq. of Simprin. There are two other proprietors in the parish, Henry Seymour, Esq. of Handford, and Admiral Halket of Delgaddo.

Parochial Registers.—Simprin was, from 1699, until his translation to Etterick in 1707, under the ministerial charge of the Rev. Thomas Boston,—a name deservedly dear to the people of Scotland.*

The session register of Simprin, commencing 21st September 1699, (the day of Mr Boston's ordination,) and continued during Mr Boston's incumbency, is still in preservation, and is wholly in Mr Boston's own handwriting: that of Swinton commences on the 29th April 1696, and extends, in respect to the records of sessional business, to 1711, and in respect to baptisms, to the present day, excepting the short space of ten months in 1760. No regular register of marriages and deaths appears to have been kept until about seventeen years ago.

III.—POPULATION.

Mr Boston found 88 examinable persons in Simprin upon his induction to that parish in 1699. In 1751, the population of the

* (*Vide* Etterick.) The manse, which was built for Boston after his induction, was still standing a few years ago; but the church, which appears to have been very small, has long been in ruins. Simprin *large barn*, mentioned in the former Statistical Account, appears, from his session record, to have been used regularly by Mr Boston upon sacramental and other extraordinary occasions.

The increase of the population since 1791 is inconsiderable, and may be accounted for partly by the enlargement of the village of Swinton, which affords accommodation to coal-carters and others, not strictly dependent for their support upon the land of the parish, and partly by the additional labourers required for a more careful husbandry.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	218
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	84
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	53
2. Number of unmarried men, widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	-	14
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	-	-	62
33 of these being widows.					
3. The average number of births yearly, for the last 5 years,	-	-	-	-	26
deaths,	-	-	-	-	11
marriages,	-	-	-	-	7+
4. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	-	370
upwards of 70,	-	-	-	-	38

Character and Habits of the People.—There are no customs, games, or amusements, which can be mentioned as peculiar to the parish or the district. Occasional trials of strength or skill

† The averages of deaths and marriages may be incorrect, as individuals dying in the parish are often buried in other parishes ; while persons not connected with it, but whose forefathers or relations are buried there, are brought sometimes from a distance to occupy their cemeteries. The number of marriages also cannot be easily ascertained, as a large portion of them are irregularly contracted at Coldstream, or at some other place on the border of the two kingdoms.

among the young men form the only portion of their out-door diversions which seems entitled to be regarded with any interest; but it is an important fact, that much of the time which used to be spent formerly by our peasantry in such, or in far less commendable pastimes, is now regularly, or at least chiefly, devoted to reading. The people are generally sober, industrious, and frugal.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The parish contains about 5383 acres under a regular system of cultivation, and 65 or 70 acres which still lie waste, or are in pasture, but which might be added to the cultivated land with a profitable application of capital. There is no land unappropriated, and only about 25 acres under wood, which has been planted.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per acre is 31s., and the average rent of grazing is at the rate of L. 3, 10s. for an ox or cow, and 10s. 6d. for a Leicester ewe or full-grown sheep. The real rent of the parish is about L. 8000.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of wages, winter and summer, for farm-labourers, may be stated at 10s., and for country artisans, about 14s. for the week.

Husbandry.—The husbandry pursued in the parish is of the most liberal and enlightened description. Draining has, for a considerable time, met with the attention which, owing to the nature of the soil, it requires; but this important improvement may still in several places be carried profitably to a greater extent. The farm-buildings and enclosures are generally in good order, and suitable to the extent of the farms.

The only improvement of any general importance which has recently been effected, is the deepening and widening of the bed of the *Leet*, which used to overflow its banks occasionally, to the great injury of the contiguous grounds, as, from its being almost quite level, the water became stagnant upon it in many places.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is stated under the following heads:

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals. *

* Flax has been little cultivated in this parish for several years past. It is the custom in most parts of the country to allow every married farm-servant or hind the tenth part of an acre, to be sowed with flax-seed. The flax, with the exception of the weaving, was all manufactured at home for the use of their families. Now, owing to the low price of linen, they generally plant potatoes on that ground.

Acres.	Bolls.			
781 wheat,	3272 at L. 1, 19s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.	-	-	L. 6520 2 10
319 barley,	1918 — 1, 3s. 10 $\frac{4}{8}$ d.	-	-	2288 5 7
1066 oats,	6445 — 0, 18s. 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.	-	-	6019 16 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
225 pease,	955 — 1, 7s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d.	-	-	1314 2 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
<hr/> 2390	<hr/> 12590			<hr/> L. 16142 7 0

Note.—The above estimate is by the boll of six imperial bushels for all descriptions of grain. The prices are the average fiars prices of the last ten years, proportioned to the imperial measure, the fiars of Berwickshire having only been struck for the last four years by that standard.

As there is little hay raised for sale, the value is included in the estimated produce of grass land.

Produce of potatoes and turnips.

64 acres of potatoes, from L. 7, 7s. to L. 9 per acre, L. 546 6 0
258 do. turnips, - - - 1255 0 0

1801 6 0

Produce of land in pasture, rating it at L. 3, 10s. per cow, or full-grown ox grazed, or that may be grazed for the season, and at 10s. 6d. per full-grown sheep pastured for the year. There are about 1928 acres of old and new grass, including the quantity made annually into hay, and consumed on the different farms, -

3313 11 0

Produce of gardens and orchards, &c. There is not a market-garden in the parish. On one estate there is an orchard of about three acres, which is let along with the farm in which it lies; the trees are very old, and not productive, but it may be worth, annually, -

10 0 0

Produce of the annual thinning and periodical felling of woods, coppes, plantations, &c. -

15 0 0

Total yearly value of raw produce raised, -

L. 21282 4 0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There are about eight miles of turnpike road in the parish, but not travelled by any public carriages; and there are three bridges. The roads are excellent, and completely fenced, and the bridges, (one of which has been lately built,) are in a good condition.

Ecclesiastical State.—From the small extent of the parish, the church, though placed rather too near to its north-east corner, is quite convenient for the whole of the inhabitants. It was built in 1729,—an aisle was added to it by the feuars of the village, for their own accommodation, in 1782,—and it is still in tolerable repair. It is seated to accommodate 400 persons, and there are no free sittings. It holds, however, considerably more than that number, and from fifty to seventy persons are regularly supplied with seats in the passage.

The manse was built in 1771, and has been several times repaired. In 1815, when it was last repaired, a considerable addition also was made to it.

The united glebe of Swinton and Simprin extends to twenty-one acres, of the annual value of L. 63, or thereby.—The stipend of the parish amounts to sixteen chalders, half barley and half oats.

There are no Dissenting, or Seceding, or Episcopalian, or Roman Catholic chapels in this parish.

A very few families, twenty-five in number, are connected with the Secession; but the great body of the parishioners attend the Established church,—the number of communicants at which varies from 440 to 470.

Education.—There are two schools in the parish,—the one the parochial school, and the other unendowed.* The usual branches of education may be obtained at the parochial school; and it may be noticed, that the teacher is Mr Strahan, the joint editor, with Mr Dickinson and Dr Smith, of Sleusner's Greek Lexicon. Reading, writing, arithmetic, and mathematics are taught at the unendowed schools.

The schoolmaster of the parochial school has the maximum salary, and his school-fees may amount to L. 20 or L. 30. He is in the enjoyment of all the legal accommodations.

The charge for education per month is,—English reading, 1s.; reading and writing, 1s. 4d.; arithmetic, 2s.; Latin, 2s. 10d.; Greek and Latin, 3s. 8d.; book-keeping, 3 sets, L. 1, 10s.; Navigation, L. 1, 10s.; Algebra, L. 2, 2s. None of the children who have reached the age of 15 are unable to write. Parents, in general, are sensible of the advantages of education; and as there are no parts of the parish so distant from the school as to prevent the attendance of healthy children at any season of the year, the young are, as a matter of course, instructed regularly to read and write, and commonly also in arithmetic.

Friendly Societies.—There is one male friendly society. It has existed forty years, and has been attended with the best effects. By protecting and encouraging habits of sobriety and industry, and fostering, therefore, a spirit of independence, as well as by the direct relief which it occasionally affords, it has contributed more than any thing else to keep down the amount of paupers on our poors' roll. For the last five years, the income of this society has considerably exceeded its expenditure, the former being L. 45, 12s. 0½d., and the latter only L. 30, 17s. 8½d. The entry

* There are two Sabbath evening schools also, connected with the Sabbath School Union. One, which meets in the church, is attended by 100 children, and conducted by five teachers. The other is attended by 20 children, and is under the superintendence of one teacher.

money, upon becoming a member is 5s.,* and the contribution 1s. 6d. per quarter. The sick or lame, if they have been four years in the society, draw 5s. per week for the first three months,—2s. 6d. for the second three months, and afterwards, while they may need support, 1s. 6d. Upon the death of a member, L. 3 are allowed for funeral expenses, and upon his wife's decease, if she has remained a widow, L. 2. If sickness &c. can be proved to have originated in irregular conduct, the individual is excluded from the benefit of the society.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 38, and the average sum per week allotted to each is about 2s. It varies, according to their circumstances, from 1s. to 2s. 6d., and in a few instances to 3s. The average annual amount of regular church collections is L. 34, and the only other means of providing for the poor is by a regular assessment, which has long obtained in this, as in all the contiguous parishes. The amount of the assessment for the last year in this parish was greater than usual,—being L. 227, 18s. 4½d.

There is an unwillingness manifested by some of the poor to make application for parochial relief; but this is not the common feeling. As in other places, when there has long been a compulsory provision for paupers, this resource has ceased to be regarded generally as degrading.

Fairs.—There are two fairs held annually in the village of Swinton,—the one in June, and the other in October. Originally these fairs formed a market for cattle and agricultural produce, but they do not now answer that end.

Inn.—There is only one inn in the parish. It is in the village. The accommodations are superior, and it is required as a place of stay and refreshment on the public road from Berwick, which passes through the village.

Fuel.—Coal is almost the only description of fuel used. It is procured in Northumberland, from a distance of ten miles, and sells in Swinton at the rate of about 18s. per ton.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Though no important improvement, not then commenced, seems to have been effected in this parish since the period of the last Statistical Account, there are perhaps few parishes which have

* This entry money after 25 years of age increases 2s.,—after 30, 3s., till 40, when admission ceases.

experienced in so short a time a more complete or more gratifying change. The subdivision of the land, indeed, was completed by that time, and the population located as at present ; but the science of husbandry, then only in its infancy, has now been matured,—the fences and the trees planted along them have grown up, and are highly ornamental,—drains have rendered the land firm and productive in places where they were then only beginning to take effect,—the roads, which are mentioned in the last Account as being “deep, miry, and almost impassable,” are now of the very best description. To no class of individuals could the warm terms in which the intelligence and general worth of the farmers of that day are mentioned, be applied with greater justice than to those who now occupy their places. Nor is there any where to be found a more intelligent, moral, and well ordered peasantry than our own agricultural population.

Revised August 1834.

PARISH OF COLDSTREAM.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. THOMAS SMITH GOLDIE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—THE original name of the parish of Coldstream was Lennal. It is found in ancient charters written in the various forms of Leinhall, Lenhal, Leinal, Lennal, and Lennel. The kirk-town of Lennel stood on the north bank of the Tweed, which at that place forms a pool, or Llyn, as it is termed in the Cambro-British dialect. When the Saxon settlers took possession of the vale of the Tweed, they added to the original name their own term *Hal*, which signifies a large house, and thus was formed the name *Leinhall*, which is to be met with in deeds as early as 1147. The church of Leinhall continued in the possession of the Prioress of Coldstream, till the period of the Reformation, and retained its original name for a century and a-half after that epoch. The original village was destroyed by the English in their predatory incursions; and in 1716 a new parish church was built at Coldstream, which was then becoming the most populous district of the parish.

The parish extends $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, and somewhat more than 4 in breadth; it is of an irregular rectangular shape, and has the parish of Ladykirk for its boundary on the east; Simprin, now united to Swinton, on the north; Eccles on the west; while Tweed separates it from England on the south.

Topographical Appearances.—The general appearance of the parish is flat, and there is no rising ground that deserves the name of hill. Five-burn-mill toll-bar is 108 feet above Berwick pier, Coldstream bridge is 61 feet, and Hatchednize 188 feet above the same level. Dovecotamins is considerably higher than any of these places.

Meteorology.—The quantity of rain that falls in this parish is comparatively inconsiderable. The situation of the parish, in reference to the direction and distance of the neighbouring hills, may

account for this circumstance : for as the Lammermoor and Cheviot ranges towards their eastern extremities are equally distant from Coldstream on the north and south, but converge and unite towards the west, the clouds, attracted by these several mountains, frequently separate, and either discharge their moisture on them, or follow their respective ranges, leaving the intervening districts dry. Accordingly, when the barometer in this district falls, indicating the presence or approach of rainy weather, the result often is, not showers of long continuance, but floods in the rivers, which flow from the adjoining hills.

Although this parish is not very subject to thunder storms, yet on several occasions the peculiar phenomenon of *ascending lightning* has been observed.* The prevailing winds are the south-westerly; but that which is generally accompanied by bad weather blows from Lamberton-hill, or from the north-easterly direction. From the lowness of its level, Coldstream is in a considerable degree exempt from rain and cold, while its distance from the coast is so great, that it does not suffer much from the scourging influence of the easterly blast; and hence the climate is milder than that of most other parishes.

Climate.—The improvements in agriculture, particularly the very extensive and efficient system of draining that has been carried on, have done much to ameliorate the climate, so that ague, which at one time was very prevalent, is now unknown in the parish, except at the farm of Hatchednize, which is in the vicinity of Lithtillum Loch, and where there is a dirty, stagnant pool, the level of which is above that of the neighbouring cottages.

Hydrography.—With the exception of a lake almost entirely artificial in the grounds of Hirsell, there is no sheet of water deserving the name,—several which are referred to in the titles of the Snook Barony having entirely disappeared. The temperature of springs in the month of October is about $48\frac{1}{2}$ Fahrenheit.

The only streams which take their rise in the parish are Graden-burn and the Shiells-burn, which join the Tweed near the eastern extremity. The Leet, another tributary of the same river, flows in a southerly direction for more than half its course through the parish, while the Tweed forms its southern boundary. From its liability to great and sudden floods, the Tweed seldom remains

* See an account published in the Philosophical Transactions of London, of a remarkable thunder storm which occurred in 1785; and in which a man driving his cart in this parish was killed by lightning rising from the ground.

long frozen ; but often great damage is done to the banks, as well as to bridges and trees, by the sudden breaking up of its icy barrier. The accumulation of alluvial soil being greater towards its mouth, the rapidity of the river is of course there not so great as in Coldstream parish, where, for the same reason, it is less than nearer its source. To this circumstance may probably be ascribed the fact, that there are no water-mills to be found lower down the river than Tweed-mill, about three miles below the town of Coldstream ; for on account of the constant liability of the Tweed itself to rise and fall by floods, mill-leads are absolutely necessary, which, to give a proper fall, must be longer and more expensive, wherever the slope of the main channel is inconsiderable.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The particular formation to which the strata of this as well as of the neighbouring parishes belong is still a subject of doubt and farther inquiry. The mineralogical characters of its marls and soft red variegated sandstones, containing, as they do in several parts, imbedded nodules and veins of gypsum, have led some to refer them to the new red sandstone series, which is known to lie in other places considerably above the coal-field. Whilst, on the other hand, the apparent geological position of these rocks, and the occurrence of extensive fossil remains both in the sandstones and clay beds of the district, have induced others to consider them as subordinate to the carboniferous limestone, which is far below the coal-field.

The strata which are prevalent in this parish are the following, and we name them in the order in which they seem to be most abundant : 1. White sandstone ; 2. Clay marl ; 3. Reddish sandstone ; 4. Limestone ; 5. Gypsum.

1. White sandstone is visible, and may be found chiefly, in the south parts of the parish. It runs in an E. N. E. and W. S. W. direction, crossing the Tweed a little below Fireburn-mill, and running down the north side of the Tweed towards Milne Graden. The line may be traced for many miles farther ; and it forms a high cliff on the banks of the Whitadder, below Claribad-mill. This white sandstone, being an excellent building stone, is worked in several parts of its course through Coldstream parish. It is quarried immediately to the north of the town of Colstream, as well as on Leet water on the west side of the town, and also on the Tweed, between the town and Coldstream-bridge. It is worked also near Lennel church, and again on Sir D. Milne's property, at the eastern extremity of the parish. The colour of the stone

is a dusky-white. In texture it is compact, and does not readily yield to the weather. Of this stone, Sir D. Milne built his mansion-house on his estate of Milne Graden. The clergyman's manse, and several other neat dwelling-houses in the town of Coldstream, are built of the same material.

2. Perhaps, of the whole strata visible at the surface of Coldstream parish, three-fourths are composed of clay and marl. The thickness of the beds is generally inconsiderable, though in some places it may be twenty or thirty feet. It is used in some parts, where it is more calcareous than in others, for spreading over the soil; but the quantity of carbonate of lime in it is so trifling that very little benefit can be derived from the practice.

3. The reddish sandstone, which, after the white sandstone and marl strata, is the most abundant rock in the parish, lies to the north of the white sandstone, and parallel with it and under it. The line probably runs through the Leet, (about a mile above Coldstream,) Hirsell Law, and Simprin. It is quarried on the banks of the Leet, on the south side of Simprin farm, and still farther to the east; but at the intermediate points it does not seem to have been sought for.

There is another stratum of the same reddish sandstone still farther north, and running in the same direction as the former. To the east of Balchristie it may be seen crossing the Leet, where it is worked; and again at Hawkslaw. This last kind of stone is used chiefly for drains, walls, and other farm purposes.

4. The limestone which occurs in the district is rather an indurated marl than the compact calcareous rock, which is worked as such in the coal measures and carboniferous limestone formation. It consists of beds, which seldom exceed two feet, and are usually only three or four inches in thickness, alternating with the clay and marl. We have not heard of its ever having been burnt for economical purposes, though the same kind of rock was burnt a good many years ago at Marchmont in Polwarth parish.

The whole of the strata above-described dip towards the S. E. under an angle not greater than 10° . Nearer the Lammermoor hills, the strata begin to rise with a greater angle, till at last, at the base of the hills, they are seen to rest on the greywacke series.

5. The gypsum has been found in this parish only in small quantities. On the banks of the Leet, about half a-mile below the house of the Hirsell, it occurs in red nodules imbedded in the

blue clay; and at Milne Graden, where coal was bored for some years since by Sir D. Milne, seams or thin veins of white gypsum were discovered in a similar situation.

A considerable variety of fossil organic remains has been found buried and preserved among the strata of this district. These fossils consist both of vegetable impressions and entire stems. The former are found both in the sandstone, (chiefly the yellowish or reddish kind,) and sometimes in the thin beds of limestone or indurated marl. The species to which these vegetable impressions belong are generally the same as those found in the coal-field and mountain limestone groups, such as equiseta, calamites, and lycopodites; but the impressions hitherto observed appear to be smaller and less frequent than in the other formations alluded to.

The discovery of the other and more interesting fossil remains, is in a great measure due to Henry Witham, Esq. of Lartington, whose zealous exertions in the cause of geology cannot be too highly commended, or too generally followed as an example. Though known to a few of the natives of the parish, who were accustomed to frequent the banks of the river seeking pebbles, these trees were never properly examined, till Mr Witham undertook the task.—But before stating the result of his investigations, we may mention the locality and position in which they are found. About half a-mile above Tweed-mill, on the north bank of the river, and near the water's edge, is a stratum of blue clay, which rises with an angle of about 5° towards the N. W. This stratum, near the river's edge, is surmounted by a bank probably 80 or 100 feet high, composed of alluvial soil, and various seams of sandstone, marl, and coarse limestone. Below the stratum is a thin seam of limestone. The stratum of clay in which the fossils are imbedded may be five or six feet in depth. Some of the stems are about the thickness of a man's body, but generally they are one-half of this size. No fragment has been found exceeding four or five feet in length. They are all lying disjointed and parallel with the bed, showing that they must have originally been deposited in a horizontal position. No small twigs or branches (far less leaves) are preserved.

These trees are encrusted almost always with a black carbonaceous matter resembling coal, which is of no greater thickness than what may have been that of the original bark. In short, this black envelope of coal seems to be the bark mineralized. When thrown into the fire, it burns clearly and rapidly. So

far as we know there has been no chemical analysis of this coaly envelope. The following is the analysis of a tree found at the place now spoken of, taken from Mr Witham's paper :* Carbonate of lime, 78; peroxide of iron, 17; protoxide of iron, 13; loss, 2=100 parts.

The prevalence of lime in these petrifications is usually accounted for by the gradual introduction of calcareous matter into the tree, (from the calcareous clay enveloping it,) as the internal parts decayed; and we know that, on account of the greater durability of the bark, the interior of a tree generally decays first. To such an extent have the decay and destruction of the ligneous parts taken place, and so complete has been the intrusion of calcareous matter, that these fossil trees consist almost entirely of carbonate of lime, and very little of the woody fibre remains.

It is of course chiefly by the examination of the remanent fibres that any hopes could be entertained of detecting the nature of these fossils. Recent investigations, for the commencement of which we are also in this respect indebted to Mr Witham, have proved that they belong to the *genus* Coniferæ, to which class our Scotch firs belong. It was for a long time supposed that the larger fossil vegetables, now and then discovered in our coal-fields, were palms. But a transverse section of the palm tree shows no appearance of small reticulated fibres, or pith, or medullary rays, or concentric rings, (denoting the annual growths) such as those observed in sections of the Tweed-mill fossils. The interior of a palm consists only of a cellular tissue, with vascular fibres, having neither medullary rays nor concentric rings. And in the appearances thus exhibited by these fossils, there is a complete resemblance to various species of Coniferæ now existing. There is only one point of difference, viz. the greater size in the fossils of the fibrous cells and extent of the annual growths,—facts attributable to the more favourable combination of heat and moisture, which operated on the Flora of a former period.

This result of an internal examination of these fossils is fully confirmed by their external appearance. For, besides that many of the stems appear twisted and otherwise irregular in their shape, (like the Coniferæ of the present epoch) many of them bear the remains of branches, such as are never met with in palms.

It has not yet been positively determined whether these trees have grown originally in the district where they are now deposited. In

* Transactions of Newcastle Phil. Soc. Vol. i.

other cases, this point can be determined by the presence of small twigs and leaves, which could not have been transported by water or otherwise without being destroyed. So far, therefore, as the non-appearance of these more delicate remains is any warrantable ground of inference, it is probable that the fossil trees at Tweed-mill may have been transported to their present site by water, being much in the same state as those immense accumulations of trees deposited at the mouths of the great American rivers.

The extent of this fossil deposit has not been yet fully ascertained. It is only at the bank of the river where it is worn down by the action of the floods that they have been observed ; but it may be observed, that similar fossils have been noticed in other parts of the Tweed, both below Coldstream Bridge, and about Fireburn-mill, as well as in more distant parts of the county.

The simple minerals are few in number. Quartz crystals, calcareous crystals, prehnite, in rolled pebbles in the channels of the Tweed, selenite, or sulphate of lime, (the latter daily forming in the marl beds,) are all that need here be noticed.

There seem to be in this parish two kinds of alluvial deposit, covering the strata wherever a proper section can be seen. The lower and thicker deposit, which is composed of clay, is farther characterized by large boulders imbedded in it, which are generally greenstone, basalt, or old red sandstone. This deposit is probably of diluvian origin. The upper alluvion, which is generally not more than two or three feet deep, consists principally of small-grained gravel intermixed with sand. That both of these deposits have been formed by water there can be no doubt; and as little doubt, that the violence of the currents which transported the boulders, and formed the lower deposit, must have been much greater than that by which the upper subsoil was formed.

It may be observed as a curious fact, that wherever the soil is turned up beyond a depth of three or four feet, immense quantities of thistles immediately spring up, and flourish in wild luxuriance. It is natural to suppose, (though the fact has not been positively ascertained,) that these plants can spring only from seed long since buried in the soil. But the question comes to be, how they could have been buried at such a depth? The seed, as they fall from their capsules, could not have sunk to that depth in the soil. How then can the fact be explained? The

only explanation which has occurred to us is the following: The natural effect of rains on the surface of a country is to wash down soil from the hills, and thus gradually fill the vallies and elevate the plains. May not the seed of plants have in this manner often been overwhelmed and buried so deeply in the soil as to be prevented from vegetating? This effect, we can see, might be easily produced by sudden floods, at a period when the rivers had not yet furrowed their way deeply into the earth's surface. Let us suppose that the low plains of the Pampas in South America, which are a wilderness of thistles, were to be overwhelmed with occasional floods, which should deposit a stratum of mud over them. The effect would of course be to bury the seeds to such a depth, as to render the process of vegetation, for which the influence of the air is needed, impossible. At a future period, when cultivation begins to adorn these dreary regions, posterity will perhaps wonder, on digging into the soil, to see myriads of thistles immediately rush into existence.

Zoology.—Many species of wild-fowl, which formerly frequented the Tweed, have entirely disappeared,—such as the coot, wild-duck, diver, and teal. This is to be accounted for, partly from the greater population on the banks of the river, partly from the frequency of poaching in the river for salmon, and partly from the drainage of those marshy lands in which these birds used to breed. Swallows, likewise, are by no means so numerous as they once were, which may be referred to the same cause, as insects, such as those on which they feed, are much more plentiful in marshy or fenny districts. Wild-swans have been shot in the parish; and a gentleman some years ago succeeded in killing a great northern diver from Hudson's Bay. A very fine specimen of night heron (*Ardea nycticorax*,) was shot a few years ago by the Earl of Home, by whom it was presented to the Museum of the Edinburgh University. Pike of a very large size, sometimes weighing upwards of 32 lbs. are caught in the lake at Hirsell; and the Earl of Home killed a salmon which weighed 50 lbs.

Botany.—In a district so highly cultivated, it is not to be expected that the botanist will find much to interest him, or engage his attention. Indeed, were it not for the Tweed and the Leet,—the lakes of Hirsell and Lithtillum,—with some at present uncultivated ground in the north of the parish, we should be afraid that the few plants that we have left would disappear. *Lactuca virosa*, which has of late got much into repute for medicinal purposes, is found in abundance on the steep banks of the Tweed,

below the old church of Lennel. . *Iberis amara*, and *Senecio tenuifolius*, have likewise been found, although not mentioned in any Flora of the district. *Tragopogon majus*, which has been only recently noticed as a native of this country, is found in the Hirscl grounds, and near Lennel-hill. It is distinguished from the common species (*T. pratense*), by the calyx being longer than the ray of the corolla,—by the peduncles, in place of tapering, becoming thicker above,—and by the smaller and more delicate habit of the plant.

I have been furnished, by a very skilful and enthusiastic botanist, (Dr John Hutton Balfour,) with a list of the Phenogamic and Cryptogamic plants, of which he enumerates 697 different species. *

From the retentive nature of the soil, the larch does not thrive so well as in other districts; but the oak, birch, and elm, thrive well,—some being found on the estate of Milne Graden above eleven feet in circumference. There are extensive plantations of very thriving timber on the estate of Hirscl, a large proportion of which has been planted by the present Earl of Home.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—Stone coffins have been found in different parts of the parish, and likewise great quantities of human bones, particularly in the grounds of Hirscl, and at the junction of the Tweed and Leet, where the Abbey was situate. These are, in all probability, the ashes of men who were distinguished for noble birth and for military prowess, as it is matter of historical record, that the Lady Abbess had the bodies of the most distinguished warriors who fell on the disastrous field of Flodden conveyed to Coldstream, and interred in the burial-ground of the abbey. There are still to be found on the barony of Snook the remains of a fortification, which was probably constructed after the use of cannon. Tradition speaks of Maxwell's Cross, which stood about a century ago, between Lennel church and Tweed-mill. †

It is well known that General Monk, before the restoration of Charles II., raised here the regiment of foot-guards which still bears the name of the parish.

Parochial Registers.—The parish records, the earliest of which is dated 1690, and which have been all along kept with accuracy, prove the existence of villages, of which not a vestige now remains.

* The list is inserted in the MS.

† A few years ago, several old coins were discovered at Milne Graden, chiefly Scotch, struck in the reign of the James'. They are now in Mr Milne's possession.

Mention is made of Graden, situate in the N. E. part of the parish, which probably contained about forty families. There was also the village of Parkend, hardly less considerable in size, about half a century ago; and it is well known that there was once a considerable village beside the old church of Lennel, although nothing but the ruins of the church remain to mark the site of the village.

Eminent Men.—Within the walls of that church is the burying-place of Patrick Brydone, Esq. author of a *Tour in Sicily and Malta*, who resided for many years in Lennel House, the seat of the Earl of Haddington.

Modern Buildings.—After Mr Brydone's death, a new mansion was erected by the noble proprietor; besides which, there are the seats of the Earl of Home at the Hirsell; Sir William Marjoribanks at the Lees; Sir David Milne at Milne Graden; and Professor Russell at Castlelaw;—all built of freestone, of which there are quarries of excellent quality in different parts of the parish.

III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1801,	-	-	-	2269
1811,	-	-	-	2384
1821,	-	-	-	2801

While the villages of Graden, Snook, and Parkend existed, the population was much more diffused over the parish than at present. By a list of the population, taken with great care in 1830, it appears, that in the landward part there were 192 families, and in the town 504; while in 1786, there were 189 and 305 families in these respectively. By that list, the whole population of the parish was 3003, which is upwards of 100 more than appears by the census of 1831. The number resident in the town was found to be 2020, and in the country 983.

It is impossible to give any correct statement of the average number of births in the parish each year, as scarcely any of the dissenters think of inserting the births of their children in the parish register,—though the fees of registration are very trifling, and in cases of poverty, not exacted. But the average number of births that have been registered during the last seven years is 40; of marriages in the same time, 21; of deaths, 54.

The number of families in the parish is	-	-	-	682
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	98
chiefly employed in trade, manufacture, and handicraft,	-	-	-	217

In the parish there are six persons insane, 3 blind, and 2 deaf and dumb.

Land-owners.—There are no noblemen or gentlemen of independent fortune resident in the parish except those already mentioned. The other principal landed proprietors are, Sir Hugh

Purves Hume Campbell; Mr Rocheid; Mr Dickson of Belchester; Mr Mason; and Mr Williamson.

Character and Habits of the People.—Education may be said to be universal in the parish,—at least I believe that very few have attained the age of fifteen who are unable to read. This, of course, serves to raise both the intellectual and moral powers of the people,—although, from the local situation of Coldstream, vice in some of its worst shapes exists to a considerable extent. The greater part of the immorality of the people may be traced to *smuggling*, for which there are great facilities, and temptations too strong to be easily resisted. The difference of duty on each gallon of whisky in England is 4½. While this continues, the severity of legal penalties, and the power of moral and religious instruction, may mitigate, as they have done of late, but they will not be able completely to eradicate this demoralizing practice. Poaching, the concomitant of smuggling, is also prevalent, both in game and in the salmon fisheries: it is very hurtful to the industrious habits of the people, and trains them to the commission of other crimes.

From the session-records it appears there have been eight illegitimate births during the last three years in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The number of acres in the parish unoccupied by wood is 8100; all of which are under cultivation. It is not easy to specify the number of acres under wood, but the value of the timber has been estimated at about L. 18,000. The greater part of the wood is on the Hirsell estate, and it is managed with very great care by the noble proprietor. The principal kinds of trees planted are, ash, beech, elm, larch, oak, plane, Scotch fir, and spruce, most of which grow to a large size.

Rent of Land.—The rental of the parish being within a trifle of L. 12,000, the average rent of land may be taken at L. 1, 10s., which, from the present low prices of most kinds of agricultural produce, must certainly be reckoned its full value. Unless some change, indeed, shall take place, more favourable to the interests of the farmer, it is not likely that land will bring such a high rent upon the expiry of the present leases.

Husbandry.—It cannot be said with truth that there is any defect in the management of land; for the farmers are almost all men of capital and enterprise, and possess great skill in their calling: The land is therefore in a high state of cultivation, and great improvements have been introduced of late years, particularly in draining and enriching the soil. Turnip husbandry is car-

ried on to a great extent, and bone-dust has been applied with most beneficial results. But, as all kinds of soil are to be found in the parish, the attention of the farmer has been directed to the cultivation of all sorts of grain.

The general duration of leases is nineteen or twenty-one years, and the rents are, I believe, in almost every instance paid in money. The lands are all well-enclosed, and the farm-offices are for the most part substantial and convenient, particularly those on the Hirs-el estate, which are very commodious and suitable.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The short-horn or Tees-water breed of cattle is that which is most admired in this district, and as the greatest care is taken to have the stock as pure as possible, they often reach a great weight. Highland cattle are likewise purchased at the great annual fairs, and fattened for the market. Very few sheep are to be found except the Leicester and Cheviot breeds; the former of which, in particular, are selected with great care, not only as regards the weight of the carcass, but also the fineness of the wool. The exertions of the late William Robertson, Esq. of Ladykirk, contributed most essentially to the improvement of all kinds of stock, and gave to this quarter of Berwickshire its present high reputation for breeding and grazing.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of common labourers are 9s. a-week; but farm-servants are paid in kind, receiving 10 bolls of oats, 3 of barley, and 1 of beans or pease, with L. 3 in money, with leave to keep poultry, or an allowance in money; also land for lint and potatoes, and the grazing of a cow throughout the year. Carpenters and other mechanics receive, upon an average, 12s. a-week.

Quarries and Mines.—Quarries of freestone have been opened in different parts of the parish; but none of these are worked at present, except on the estates of Hirs-el, Milne Graden, and Lees, besides one in the immediate vicinity of the town. The stone is of most excellent quality, and beautifully white, so that the houses have a neat, clean, and comfortable appearance.

Fisheries.—The salmon fisheries were formerly very productive; but of late they have afforded a very small recompense to the different tacksmen. This is partly owing to the prevalence of poaching, and partly, it is alleged, to the means that are adopted at the mouth of the river to prevent the passage of the fish upwards; at least complaints on this subject are very general. The rent of the fisheries may be stated at L. 100 a-year. Bailiffs are appointed to prevent the fish from being disturbed at improper times.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce

raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, on an average of the seven years preceding Martinmas 1833, was L.28,182 a-year.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—There is a weekly corn-market in Coldstream; and likewise a monthly market for the sale of sheep and cattle, which is well attended, and where a great deal of first rate stock is annually exposed for sale. The only village in the parish is the Newtown of Lennel, so called in opposition to the original village of Lennel, where the church formerly stood.

Means of Communication.—The mail-curricule to London and Edinburgh passes through the town every day; besides which, there is a daily post to all the towns in the neighbouring counties. There are twenty-two miles of parish roads, and eight miles of turnpike roads, which are travelled by three coaches from Edinburgh to Newcastle, and two between Kelso and Berwick. There is a very handsome bridge of five arches across the Tweed, and one of one arch across the Leet, at the south and west entrances to the town.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is conveniently situate for the greater part of the parish, although it is nearly 5 miles from the eastern, $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the northern, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the western extremity of the parish. It was built in 1795, is in good repair, and was intended to accommodate upwards of 1100 sitters. Being built by the heritors alone, it is their property, and consequently no rent is paid by any of the people.

Upon the death of the late incumbent in 1830, the heritors resolved to build a new manse, according to a plan furnished by Mr Hamilton of Edinburgh; it was completed in 1832, and is acknowledged to be the neatest and most commodious manse in Berwickshire. Nothing, indeed, could exceed the kindness of the heritors, or their anxiety to secure the comfort of the clergyman. Including the site of the manse and garden, the extent of the glebe is about $11\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and its annual value may be stated at L. 50. The stipend is 16 chalders, in equal proportions of meal and barley, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements.

There are two meeting-houses in the town, one belonging to the United Associate Synod of the Secession church, the other to the Relief synod. The stipend given to the clergyman of the former denomination is L. 150, with a house and garden; to the other, L. 115.

There are 242 families in the parish that attend the Established church, besides a few from England; 155 families attend the Se-

cession meeting-house; and 55 the Relief. Many from other parishes, and also from England, attend the dissenting places of worship. Divine service is attended with great regularity both at the Established church and at the two chapels. During the last three years, the average number of communicants at the Established church has been 560.

Education.—There are seven schools in the parish. Most of them are well attended, and the ordinary branches are taught, except at the grammar-school and a private academy, where the pupils are prepared for the University. Of late, the number of children at the parish school has greatly increased; they now average upwards of 120 during the year. The salary is the maximum; and the fees for reading, writing, and arithmetic, are 3s. a quarter, with a proportional increase for other branches,—being considerably less than the fees of most of the other schools. The school-house has been recently enlarged, whereby the comfort of the teacher and pupils has been greatly promoted. The school-fees average between L. 70 and L. 80 a-year.

A sum of L. 500 was left nearly thirty years ago by the late Mr John Bell of Berwick, the interest of which is applied for the education of poor children in the town of Coldstream; and the interest of L. 300, also left by the same charitable individual, is expended in furnishing the children of the poor with clothes when they leave school. There is a Sabbath school connected with every place of worship; and the effects of this increased facility of acquiring religious instruction are visible in the orderly conduct of the young, and their respect for the ordinances of religion. There is no doubt that the Sabbath is much better observed than it was formerly.

Literature.—There are three libraries,—which are supported by private subscription. Two of them belong to mechanics and the working-class of society. The recent establishment of a small library connected with the church Sabbath school has created a fondness in the young for reading works on religion, history, and travels, from which very beneficial results may be anticipated.

Charitable and other Institutions.—There are four Friendly Societies in the town; some of which have existed many years, and are very flourishing. Their object is to relieve the members when they are unable to work from sickness or age. They certainly have the effect of encouraging a spirit of industry among the members. There is no saving bank in the parish, and I have never heard that

any of the people deposit money in the bank at Dunse, which is the nearest.

A female Society was established some years ago for affording relief to the sick, and to the poor during winter. It is liberally supported, and has been productive of great benefit to the class of the community in whose behalf it was founded. The annual amount of contributions is upwards of L. 60. A Religious Society in connection with the Established church has been lately formed. It is well supported; and promises to be very beneficial in supplying Bibles, &c. to the poor. There are likewise two Societies connected with the dissenting meeting-house, for religious and charitable purposes; of the success of which I have no means of furnishing any accurate or satisfactory information.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—It is a peculiar feature in the history of our country, that the nearer we approach to England, we invariably find the poor rates increase, and the people louder in their demands for parochial relief; so that, while in some districts of the Highlands it is reckoned almost a disgrace to receive assistance from the parish, on the borders, the poor insist upon it as a right, and never regard it as a degradation. Hence, in Coldstream, the assessment for the poor is very heavy, amounting to nearly L. 700 a year, including incidental expenses. For the last seven years, the average number on the poor's roll has been 109; but at present it is rather decreasing, and there is reason to hope that, by a proper system of management, a great diminution may take place, without treating the paupers with less kindness, but by exercising proper watchfulness, and endeavouring to prevent strangers who are likely to become paupers from acquiring a settlement; for it is a remarkable fact, that there are at present only thirty-eight of those who receive relief, natives of the parish, and sixteen were born in England. The average weekly allowance may be stated at 1s. 6d. to each person, and in very few cases does it exceed 2s. The whole sum requisite for supporting the poor is raised by assessment in equal proportions upon the landlord and tenant. The collections at the church door average 12s. a-week, and are left by the heritors under the management of the kirk-session, who are thus enabled to relieve many who are thrown into temporary difficulties. By this arrangement the legal assessment is prevented from becoming higher. It is to be regretted, that the same praiseworthy practice is not universally followed; for it is very short-sighted policy to insist upon half of the church collections being applied to the relief of regular paupers, with the view of diminishing the assessment.

Prisons.—There is a lock-up-house in the town, in which the baron baillie has power to confine for a short time persons who have been guilty of small offences, and where those charged with greater crimes are kept previous to their being sent to the county jail.

Inns, &c.—The number of inns, public-houses, and shops where spirits are sold in the parish is thirty-two,—which certainly far exceeds what is requisite, and is by no means favourable to the morals of the people, especially under the present very low price of whisky.

Fuel.—Coal is the only kind of fuel used in the parish, of which it was calculated, when a railway was proposed between Kelso and Berwick, that 5667 tons are annually consumed. It is brought from the English collieries, which are distant from seven to ten miles, and costs about 6d. per cwt.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It may be remarked in general, that the system of agriculture pursued in this parish is not inferior to that of the best districts of Scotland, and that, if farm produce brought a remunerating price, which of late years it has not done, the present spirited tenantry would be enabled to carry on draining and liming to a greater extent: and improvements would be greatly facilitated, were the railway executed, which was projected a few years ago between Berwick and Kelso.

Three things seem requisite for promoting the happiness and morals of the people: 1st, A complete change in the excise laws, regarding the price of whisky, whereby the duty may be equalized in Scotland and England: 2d, A change in the present system of game laws, by which a check may be put to poaching: 3d, A change in the law of marriage in Scotland; for, as the law at present stands, a declaration of the parties before two witnesses, constitutes a marriage. Hence persons in England, where marriage is regarded as a religious ceremony, which must be performed by a clergyman of the Established church, very frequently come to Coldstream and other border parishes, and are married by persons of the lowest and most worthless character, who, it is said, perform a religious ceremony in mockery of every thing sacred, and give the parties a certificate that they had declared themselves married persons. This led to the custom of persons in Scotland getting themselves married in the same irregular way; and although few comparatively belonging to Coldstream are now guilty of this breach of *church law*, yet many from other parishes are married at Coldstream bridge.

August 1834.

PARISH OF NENTHORN.

PRESBYTERY OF KELSO, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JOHN GIFFORD, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—NENTHORN was anciently called Nanthansthirn; a word which the writer of the former Statistical Account derives from some remarkable thorn trees formerly existing in the parish. It has a more probable connection with two singular ranges of rock called the *Meikle* and *Little Thairn*, about half-a-mile from the church on the banks of the Eden,—places once noted in the district as haunts of superstition. The prefix appears to be the name of some person or object; but the etymology is quite uncertain.

Topographical Appearances.—The parish is of an irregular outline, somewhat resembling a sand-glass, or the figure 8, being nearly divided in the middle by Roxburghshire on the east and west, and tracing a line from one extremity to the other, it extends to about four and a-half miles in length, by not more than two at the widest part. Owing to the peculiar form, however, the actual area is but $5\frac{1}{2}$ square miles, or 3400 English acres. It is bounded on the north by Earlstoun; on the east by Stichel and Ednam; Kelso on the south; and Smailholm on the west, on which side it has the small stream of the Eden as its boundary for three miles. The position lengthwise, is from north-west to south-east, with a gradual but undulating declivity from a rocky ridge of hill across the northern part to within a mile and a-half of the town of Kelso. These undulations, six or seven in number, at distances of less than half a-mile, stretch from east to west parallel with the Tweed, till they are lost in the flat of the river. Through the first and largest of the series, the stream of the Eden has forced its way, leaving the eastern bank a wall of bare and precipitous rocks a hundred feet high; while, on the western side, the ground slopes with easy ascent to its original elevation.

Meteorology.—The mean temperature of the atmosphere for

the last six months, by Mr Roy's ingenious observation tables at Nenthorn House, and taken at 9 A. M., is as follows :

1884.			
January, .	40°	April, .	46°
February, .	38	May, .	57
March, .	42	June, .	61

Geology.—The ridge referred to, and rocks, which in a few places protrude through the soil, are whinstone or trap, and coarse red sandstone. The latter is to be met with only at two or three points ; but from its showing itself on the north and south sides of the hill of Blinkbonny near the base, and on the same level, it is probable that the masses of trap along the whole ridge are superincumbent on freestone. The trap rocks are greenstone intermixed with trap tufa and basalt. The basalt is beautifully arranged in pentagonal and hexagonal columns, nearly vertical, and very similar to those on Arthur's Seat.

Botany.—This department presents nothing very interesting ; but among the more or less common plants may be mentioned,—*Dianthus deltoides*, *Orchis Morio*, *Orchis latifolia*, *Fedia olitoria*, *Echium vulgare*, *Saxifraga granulata*, *Comarum palustre*, *Malva moschata*, *Malva rotundifolia*, *Teucrium Scorodonia*, *Convolvulus arvensis*, *Polygonum convolvulus*, *Hedera Helix*, &c.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—At a remote period, the parish appears to have been the property of the De Morvilles, constables of Scotland.

Previous to 1316, it had passed into the hands of William De Lamberton, Bishop of St Andrew's, including the chapel of Little Newton, the site of which is now occupied as a burial-place by the Newton Don family. On the 6th March of that year, the Abbot of Kelso obtained possession of these properties in exchange for the church of Cranston in Mid-Lothian, due regard being had in the transaction to the losses which Naithansthirn had sustained by the wars. A pendicle of the parish was given about the end of the same century to the monks of Kelso, to pray for the souls of the Earls of Douglas. The village was again burnt by the Duke of Norfolk in October 1542.

Land-owners.—The landed properties in the order of their valuation, are, Newton Don, the property of Sir William Don, Bart. ; Nenthorn, belonging to James Roy, Esq. ; a portion belonging to George Baillie, Esq. of Jerviswood ; another to His Grace the Duke of Roxburghe ; and a small part to Sir John Pringle of Stitchel, Bart.

Family Seats.—In the south-east angle of the parish is situated the fine mansion of Newton Don, and the extensive and richly ornamented policy connected with it, commanding one of the loveliest prospects on the Tweed,—near to which, the Eden is suddenly precipitated over a ledge of rock, from thirty to forty feet perpendicular. Here are preserved some ancient relics of the Earls of Glencairn, noticed in the early history of the church, of which noble house Sir William Don is now the representative. The only other mansion in the parish is that of Mr Roy, formerly the residence of the Kerrs of Littledean, a branch of the family of Roxburghe.

Parochial Registers.—The register of proclamations of marriage begins in 1702, and of baptisms in 1715. The deaths of every tenth year are marked from 1740 to 1780, and after that regularly every year till 1800.

III.—POPULATION.

From the register of baptisms, the population in 1720 and 1730 appears to have been at least double its present amount, the baptisms of these two years being equal in number to those of the seven years ending with 1833. The population was

In 1755, according to Dr Webster,	-	497
1790, ascertained to be	-	376
1801, by the Government Census,	-	395
1811,	-	398
1821,	-	393
1831,	-	380

The causes of the decline of the population since the middle of last century have been,—the decay and ultimate extinction of the villages at Nenthorn and Newton, as also the junction of small farms, and more lately, emigration to Canada.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	70
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	56
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	9
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	4
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45 years,	-	8
3. Average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	7
deaths,	-	4
marriages,	-	3

There are 15 individuals above 70 years of age; 2 above 80; and 1 upwards of 90.

Character and Habits of the People.—There being no village now, with the exception of a few cottages on Mr Baillie's property, the population is almost wholly agricultural, and partakes of the general habits of that class; but the local attachments are not strong. Not a single farmer in the parish is a native of it. The

majority of the people are migratory,—the farm-servants, or *hinds*, as they are called, frequently changing masters, and passing from one parish to another. Their morals are generally good. There is no prevailing disease; and the people are healthy,—the climate salubrious. The parish schoolmaster has done the duty of his department, with but little interruption, for fifty-four years; and the late incumbent who died in January last was only the third in succession since 1696.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—

Number of acres cultivated or occasionally in tillage,	3080
uncultivated,	0
under wood,	310
a lake or marsh,	30

About one-half of the wood is full-grown, and the rest in a thriving condition. The kinds are, Scotch fir, larch, ash, beech, lime, oak, chesnut, sycamore, elm, poplar, maple, &c. The larch is an increasing favourite, but on heavy soils it is liable to rot in the heart after it has attained a height of forty feet.

Description of Soil, &c.—The northern part consists chiefly of a wet reddish clay on a retentive bottom, interspersed with considerable portions of good dry turnip soil. The southern section is more in the vale of the Tweed, and partakes of the richer qualities of that neighbourhood, being a mixture of clay and gravelly loam.

Husbandry.—The system of husbandry is the ordinary rotation observed in the counties of Berwick and Roxburgh, viz. $\frac{1}{3}$ in wheat and barley, $\frac{1}{3}$ in oats, $\frac{1}{3}$ in turnips and potatoes, or fallow, and $\frac{2}{3}$ in hay and pasture. The farmers, however, labour under great disadvantage in point of locality, there being neither coal nor lime within fifteen or twenty miles, and the distance being still greater to the nearest sea-port, with an unnavigable river,—and no rail-road or canal. The drawback, therefore, on the produce sent to market is very considerable. Nevertheless, several of the farms are in a high state of improvement, and all of them nearly as well improved as circumstances will admit of. Bone manure has been applied to the turnip-soils with complete success. The rule is to lay two quarters on an English acre,—the article being purchased at Berwick, twenty-two miles distant, for L. 1 or L. 1, 1s. per quarter.

Rent.—The rental is L. 4100, inclusive of the returns of the valuable grass parks of Nenthorn and Newton Don, annually let by public roup. Eight hundred acres are rented at L. 2 per acre;

and the rest vary from L. 1, 10s. to 15s. 6d. The farms are let on leases of twenty-one years, at fixed rents, usually of L. 400 or L. 500 each, and in no instance depending on the *fiar* prices.

Wages.—The farm-servants occupy houses provided for them on the farm by their employer, with a small patch of garden-ground attached to each. They receive their wages, partly in money, designated *sheep-money*, and partly in oatmeal, barley, pease, and potatoes. A cow's grass is allowed in summer, and straw for fodder in winter. A sufficient quantity of coals also is carried at the farmer's expense, but the servant pays the original price at the coal-pit. The annual income of the hind, including all his privileges, is about L. 25, or, in years when grain is high priced, L. 30. But, on the other hand, he is obliged at his own cost to keep a female servant, who is liable to be called for by the farmer at a busy season, or in cases of emergency, to aid in forwarding the field-labour. This person has to shear in harvest for the house-rent; at other times she is paid 10d. a-day when employed. This species of service is denominated the *Bondage*, and the individual appointed to it the *Bondager*.

The hind's privileges are thus specified:—house and yard; coals driven; cow's grass in summer, and fodder in winter; ten bolls of oats or oatmeal; ten firlots of barley; four to six firlots of pease; 1000 to 1500 yards of potato-drill; a peck's sowing of lint, or L. 1 in lieu; L. 3 to L. 4 of money. Ordinary maid-servants have L. 5 wages in summer, and L. 2 in winter. Men engaged at day-labour receive 1s. 8d. per diem.

Before the harvest sets in, Irish shearers arrive annually in great numbers, by whom chiefly the crops are cut down. Formerly hands were obtained from the Highlands of Scotland; but these, unable to cope with those of the sister island in lowness of wages, or from some other cause, have disappeared for many years past, and left the others in undisputed possession. They usually work for 10s., 12s., and 14s. a-week, with victuals,—the materials of dinner being invariably, all over the district, a good wheaten loaf of 16 oz. or 18 oz. weight, and an ordinary-sized bottle of beer. Ten hours a-day is the specified time for labour.

Fences and Drains.—There are stone walls around some of the old grass enclosures, but hedges are almost universally in use. They are planted with a ditch about three feet deep and five feet wide; cost 3s. per rood, including the temporary paling for protection; and are never, when properly attended to, suffered to grow

more than four feet high. Drains leading to the fence-ditch are rapidly spreading in every direction where they are needed, and promise to add greatly to the value of the soil. These are cut three feet deep, filled two-thirds with broken stones, and cost a shilling per rood.

Progress of Improvement.—Forty years ago the rental was just a half of what it is at present. Considerable tracts of ground, which were then unenclosed and disfigured with furze and heath, are now under the ordinary routine of crop-bearing with the rest of the lands. An aged person, who lived in the parish as a farm-servant seventy-two years since, informs the writer of this account that there was then scarcely a fence to be seen. On an eligible spot sheep were penned for a sufficient time to prepare the ground for crop, when it was torn up by a ponderous plough drawn by four horses and as many oxen, yoked two and two a-breast. Grey oats were sown on the same place two or three years successively; then pease and beans, or barley; after which, it was left a prey to weeds, or lay naked and barren, till restored in some measure by the lapse of time. There was no such thing as a turnip or potatoe heard of except in gardens. A considerable part of the Nenthorn estate was let at 2s. 6d. per acre. Men-servant's wages were L. 2, 10s. the half year; women's, L. 1. Day-labourers got 6d. to 8d. per day. A good horse brought a price of L. 5 or L. 6; a cow, L. 5. Good rough sheep were worth 10s. 7s. and 5s. each.

The gross annual produce stands as under.

Wheat,	-	278	acres	yielding	1090	bolls	of	6	bushels	each,	L.	1920	0	0
Barley,	-	610		do.	1315		do.	-				1307	0	0
Oats,	-	540		do.	2850		do.	-				1785	0	0
Pease and beans,	30		do.	120		do.	-					138	0	0
Turnips,	-	260		-	-		-	-				940	0	0
Potatoes,	-	35		-	-		-	-				350	0	0
Hay,	-	160		-	-		-	-				650	0	0
Pasture,	-	1290		-	-		-	-				1860	0	0
Gardens and woods,	-			-	-		-	-				170	0	0
												<hr/>		
												L.	9120	0 0

Live-Stock.—At Martinmas, the cattle of one year old and upwards may be reckoned at 260, chiefly the short-horned breed. At Whitsunday there are about 2000 sheep and lambs, chiefly of the Leicester breed. Besides these, 60 scores of sheep, or thereby, are fed on turnips for a month or two in winter at 4d. per head per week, or L. 4 per acre. A cow's pasturage for the summer is L. 5, and a sheep's for the year 7s. There are 110 horses of all descriptions; and, upon an average, 220 pigs, half and full-grown,

the improved breed. The average value of a good draught-horse is L. 30.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets, and Means of Communication.—The nearest market and post-town is Kelso, four miles distant from the church, which is in the centre; but much of the farm produce is sold at Dalkeith or Berwick, to which places there are good roads, whence the carts return with coals, lime, or bone-dust. Within the last forty years the roads have been greatly improved. Two bridges have been thrown over the Eden, which had formerly to be forded on foot or horseback, often at much risk. Old parishioners remember well when there was scarcely any passage for wheel-carriages from Nenthorn to Kelso in wet weather, whereas the same course is now travelled over daily by a stage-coach at the rate of eight or nine miles per hour. A private post delivers letters and newspapers every day,—the former at the charge of 1d.; the latter, free.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church, which was built in 1802 on a very contracted scale, is disgracefully situated at a place where two roads meet, without enclosure of any sort, and without a bell. It inconveniently accommodates 140 sitters, including the private galleries of Sir W. Don and Mr Roy of Nenthorn. The churchyard, where the old church stood, is at a considerable distance, embosomed among trees in a sequestered spot by the side of the Eden. The teinds are valued and exhausted; and the living, all derived from the teinds, has varied from L. 220 to L. 135. Of late years the average is barely the minimum. It is paid, one-half in money, and the other in wheat, barley, oats, and pease, according to the fair prices. The glebe consists of rather more than $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres, and is worth L. 22 a year of rent. A suitable new manse is in the course of erection; the old one, built more than a century ago, and which had undergone various mutations, having become unfit for use or repair. This, with the office-houses and garden attached, occupies half an acre more, apart from the glebe.

Till 1776 this parish belonged to the presbytery of Lauder or Earlstoun, but at that date it was detached by act of Assembly, and annexed to that of Kelso, as being more convenient.

Of the population, 49 families belong to the Established church, and 19 to the Secession and Relief bodies. There are also 1 Cameronian and 1 Episcopalian. The communicants in the parish church average from 90 to 100. By the great majority of the people Christian ordinances are duly appreciated, and the public

forms of religion are rarely neglected, even in those cases where its power is little felt.

Education.—There is one parish-school, in which are taught reading, writing, and accounts. The average number attending for the year is 30. The schoolmaster's salary is L. 25, with house and garden. The probable yearly amount of fees actually paid to the teacher is L. 7, 10s. and his other emoluments do not exceed L. 2. All above six years of age can read.

Poor.—The regular poor average about 7 in number, most of whom reside in other parishes, but have their claim here. Provision on a small scale is made for their relief by collections in the church after public worship on the Lord's day; but they are chiefly aided by a compulsory poor-rate, amounting to L. 20 a year. One shilling per week is the usual allowance to a pauper.

Inns.—Ale and ardent spirits are sold at a toll-house; otherwise there is no inn in the parish.

Fuel.—Half a century ago, peat from the Lurgie Loch and the moors of Gordon was the principal fuel, and many of the cottagers had their stacks of dried whins for winter use. At present every one is furnished with coals, brought from Lothian or Northumberland, a distance of twenty miles, at a cost of 10d. per cwt. including purchase, draught, and other expenses. In addition to coal many use wood for convenience or comfort, which may be had at from 3s. to 6s. per cart-load, according to quality and distance.

August 1834.

PARISH OF FOGO.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. GEORGE M'LEAN, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent, Boundaries.—THIS parish extends from E. N. E. to W. S. W., 5 miles in length by $1\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth on an average; and is nearly rectangular. Of course, its superficial extent may be about $7\frac{1}{2}$ square miles or 4800 acres. It is bounded by the parish of Greenlaw on the west; Polwarth on the north-west; Edrom on the north and east; Swinton on the south-east; and Eccles on south and south-west. The small river of Blackadder, which enters the parish from the west, intersects it for about half its length, and then becomes the boundary between it and Edrom.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface of the parish may be described as consisting of two long parallel ridges of small elevation, separated by the river,—the northmost commencing at a small rivulet which runs through a narrow marsh and separates it from Polwarth,—the south ridge sloping gradually into a level of considerable breadth. The higher ground, which is a deep black loam, is considered most valuable and productive; the low and flat ground being thinner and having a tilly and stiff bottom. The highest ground may be 100 feet above the sea.

Meteorology.—On this head it may be only mentioned that, as the parish lies about two miles south of Langton-edge, which is the commencement of the Lammermoor range, there are frequent showers upon that range, while there are none in this parish; but, from the nature of the soil, which is retentive of moisture, the parish is less injured by summer's drought than many other places. It suffers more from a wet than a dry season. It may be also mentioned, that the winds which prevail here are chiefly from the north and east in the spring, with cold and chilling fogs or rain; during the rest of the year, the winds generally range from south to north-west. A violent gale from the south-west is almost always accom-

panied with a flood in Tweed, though there be not a drop of rain here; but in a few days after, rain frequently succeeds.

Hydrography and Geology.—The water in the springs of this parish is of a hard quality, and does not readily dissolve soap. The people, therefore, endeavour to obtain rain-water for washing. Some of these springs taste a little of sulphur or iron.—The only river in the parish is the Blackadder. The dark colour of the water of this river is owing to the marshy ground in the parishes of Longformacus, Westruther, and Greenlaw, where this river and the small streams that feed it take their rise; and it may be owing to this that salmon never enter it; or if they do, die, it is said, in a few days. It produces, however, eels and excellent trout, red and firm-fleshed, resembling those of Eden-water, which joins the Tweed three miles below Kelso. The Eden rises also in a marshy district, which may be the cause of this similarity of the fish. The river Blackadder, after leaving Fogo, joins the Whitadder, about six miles to the east, at Allanton, in the parish of Edrom, and the united streams enter the Tweed three miles above Berwick.

The Blackadder flows over a bed of coarse gravel and large stones, and in many places over strata of bastard whin and limestone, which are raised from two to six inches thick, and make excellent covers for open drains and conduits. As there are many perpendicular fissures in these strata, they are easily raised by wedges and sledge-hammers.

The banks of the river are seldom steep; and are ploughed to within a few yards of the stream; but, where they are steep and nearly perpendicular, there appear alternate beds of the bastard whin and till, or of till mixed with clay or marl,—the strata inclining towards the east or south-east. There are found under these perpendicular projections large pieces of petrified moss indicating lime,—but there are no quarries or mines of any description wrought at present in the parish. The only one of freestone is exhausted, and the upper part of it was of bad quality.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—The history of the parish is little known, and furnishes nothing of importance. Redpath, in his Border History, says, that in a charter of confirmation given at Roxburgh, anno 1159, by Malcolm IV. to the convent of Kelso, are included nine or ten churches granted by subjects,—among which churches there are Fogo, with one ploughgate of land, and Hume, with two ploughgates of land, and a meadow by Cospa-

trick, Earl of March.* The farm of Sisterpath, to the west of the church, may probably have taken its name from the *religieuses* having their solitary walks in that direction.

An old farm-stead, now converted to a cottage, stands on the bank of the river, a quarter of a mile west of the church; it is called Corbiehall. A gentleman, versed in Berwickshire antiquities, says, that its proper name should be Corbetshall, from a person of that name who came to this country with William the Conqueror. The bridge over the Blackadder, near the church, like all old bridges, is narrow, but being founded upon rock, it has stood without repair, except in the parapet, ever since it was built. Sir James Cockburn of Langton and Riselaw built it at his own expense, in consequence of a dispute with a neighbouring proprietor as to the ground on which it is placed; and he caused the following inscription to be put upon it: "Sir James Cockburn of Langton and Rislaw did this brig." His descendants still inherit the title; but the property has passed into other hands.

Land-owners.—There are only four land-owners in the parish, viz. Henry Trotter of Mortonhall, (proprietor of two-thirds;) Miss Robertson, heir of William Robertson of Ladykirk; Sir William Purves Hume Campbell, Bart. of Marchmont; John Foreman Home, of Wedderburn and Caldra. None of them reside in the parish. Caldra-House is let. Mr Trotter lately rebuilt a small country house at Charter-Hall, which he visits for a few days on business. The other two proprietors have no mansions in the parish. All the other houses are occupied by tenants and servants, except the manse and schoolhouse.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest entry in the parochial registers is dated A. D. 1660. The Episcopal clergy, when turned out, generally carried off the records. The registers have not been so complete as could be wished,—the mother's name being omitted, which is sometimes as essential to her descendants as the father's. The registers have been lately new-modelled, and a register of burials added to those of births and marriages.

Antiquities.—The only vestige of antiquity in the parish is an old Roman camp at Chesters, in the west end of the parish; the stones of which have been mostly removed to make way for the plough. The situation shows how careful the Romans were of the health of their armies,—the soil being light and dry,—and the situation being near water, and by its elevation, commanding an

* See note, p. 93. London, 4to edit. 1776.

extensive view of the surrounding country. There was lately trenched up what appeared to have been a Roman causeway, passing through a marsh adjoining this parish on the south, and probably leading to this camp.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of the parish, which, according to Dr Webster's Account in 1755, was 566, has decreased about one-fourth. This evidently arises from the common custom in this country of uniting farms, one tenant possessing what was formerly occupied by three or four. A few straggling ash-trees still point out the seat of the former dwellings. If this change has diminished the population, it has certainly improved and increased the produce of the soil, which is now occupied by persons of capital and enterprise. The village of Fogo, the only one in the parish, scarcely deserves the name, as it only consists of the manse and school-house, and of six cottages attached to two farms. The population at present may be considered as nearly stationary, varying a little, according to the annual ingress or egress of farm-servants, with their families.

By the census of 1801, the population was	507
1811, - - -	471
1821, - - -	469
1831, - - -	433
	} 186 males.
	} 247 females.

1. Number of families in the parish,	- - -	88
chiefly employed in agriculture,	- - -	69
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	- - -	11
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	- - -	3
women, including widows, upwards of 45,	- - -	7
3. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	- - -	10
of marriages,	- - -	6
4. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	- - -	159
upwards of 70,	- - -	13

There is only one family of independent fortune, residing in the parish. The yearly value of the four landed estates is from L. 150 to upwards of L. 3000.

It may be added, that the tenants have comfortable houses, and live in a style superior to what was known among the same class sixty years ago.

There have been no illegitimate births in the parish during the last three years.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of acres in the parish, as before stated, is about 4800; and the whole, since the time when the last Statistical Account was written, have been

brought under the plough or planted; so that there is no waste land except what lies along the banks of the river, which may extend to twenty or thirty acres, and even that may be pastured or cut to the water's edge. There is no undivided common, but a patch of four or five acres near the church, bounded by the water, and the lands of two proprietors. The acres under wood may be about 305, planted within these sixty years by the late and by the present proprietor at Charter-Hall; five acres on the bank of the river in front of Caldra-House, planted by the late General Home, as before noticed; and about five acres at Harcarse. These plantations consist mostly of fir, with some beech, birch, and other hard-wood, and are thriving well. The fir of Charter-Hall is used by the fish-curers to make barrel staves.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of day-labourers are 1s. 6d. a-day, summer and winter. Hinds or yearly servants working a pair of horses receive 14 bolls of grain, a cow summered and wintered, ground for planting half a boll of potatoes, producing ten or twelve bolls; L. 4 in money; four double carts of coals (48 bolls) driven, and a dwelling-house and small garden for vegetables, of the value of L. 2,—for which last they find a shearer in harvest, the tenant furnishing victuals, as he does to all his labourers in harvest. A hind's gains are estimated at L. 30. If he has children above ten, they are employed and paid for working in the fields, which adds to the income of the family. The hind is also bound to keep a bondager for out-of-door work at the master's call, who pays for the bondager, when employed, 10d. a-day.

Unmarried men-servants within the house, besides board, receive, half yearly, from L. 3, 10s. to L. 4, 10s.; boys, from L. 1, 10s. to L. 2; women, L. 5 in summer, and L. 2 in winter,—the cause of which difference is, that in summer they are employed in hoeing and out-door work. Reapers' wages in ordinary seasons are 14s. a-week for men, and 12s. for women, with victuals.

Prices of Agricultural Implements.—Wood and iron,—the principal articles of raw produce in use for husbandry,—are brought from Berwick at market-price; the iron, when wrought, is charged by the pound, or according to the time occupied in working. Smiths generally agree to keep in repair the iron work at L. 3 a-year for each pair of work horses; carpenters charge about L. 12 for a cart, L. 3 for a plough. Paling costs 1s. 8d. per rood of two rails, and 2s. 6d. per rood of three rails. Masons receive 2s. 6d. a-day, and sometimes work by estimate.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The breed of sheep is Leicester and Cheviot, but chiefly the latter; they are reared upon the land, though many purchase Cheviot lambs at Yetholm and the west country fairs in summer, winter them on turnips, and sell them after a year's keeping, so as to procure a return of from 20s. to 25s. a-head. The cattle are also of a mixed breed. Those reared on the land are of the improved short-horned kind. The others, kyloes, (Highland cattle,) are bought at the end of the season for the straw yard, or fed on turnips, and sold in the following autumn at a profit of from L. 6 to L. 8 a-head for keeping. Mr Thomson of Earnslaw has been long noted as a breeder of both cattle and sheep of great weight and symmetry.

Husbandry.—The management of the land is good, and what is called the five-break rotation is commonly followed. Bone-dust has of late been used as a turnip manure, and seems to answer well in dry seasons. All the land in the parish being reclaimed, inclosed with hedge and ditch fences, and mostly drained, there remains little for further improvement. The farm-buildings are in general well planned and convenient. Leases are granted for nineteen or twenty-one years. There are no obstacles to improvement on the part of either heritors or tenants, or from other causes,—except the distance of lime and coal, which is fifteen or sixteen miles at least, and of a market for the produce, (Berwick,) which is equally distant. The grain is all sold by sample. A small portion of it is bought and manufactured by the west country millers for the Dalkeith market.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:

Taking the area of the parish at	-	-	-	-	4800 acres,
And deducting for wood, water, roads, and waste land,	-	-	-	-	400
There remains for corn and grass,	-	-	-	-	4400
One-third of which render a crop,	-	-	-	-	1466 $\frac{2}{3}$
<hr/>					
Taking $\frac{1}{2}$ = 366 $\frac{2}{3}$ acres in wheat, at 5 bolls per acre, = 1833 bolls,	L.	3772	18	6	
$\frac{1}{2}$ = 366 $\frac{2}{3}$ do. in barley, at 6 do. do. = 2200 do.		2704	3	4	
$\frac{2}{3}$ = 733 $\frac{1}{3}$ do. in oats, at 7 do. do. = 5133 do.		4876	7	0	
<hr/>					
Supposing 78 hinds and cottars to raise (as before-mentioned,) 10 bolls					
of potatoes each,					780 do.
10 tenants 50 bolls each on an average,					500 do.
<hr/>					
Total at 6s. per boll,		1280	384	0	0
Supposing one-sixth of the land in fallow, one-half of which in turnips					

and potatoes, (the other half bare-fallow for wheat.) deducting 32 acres for potatoes, there remains 334 acres of turnips at L. 5 per acre, L. 1670 0 0

Note.—Leguminous crops are of trifling extent, the soil being unfit for them.

The hay is not allowed to be carried off the land, but is used for winter food of horses, &c. Its value may therefore be rated with the pasture land, which, after the above deductions, will be 2220 acres at L. 3 per acre, - - - - -

6660 0 0

Total, L. 20067 8 10

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication, &c.—The only village is Fogo,—which has a population of thirty-five persons. There are two turnpike roads passing through the parish; the one from the west is the great road to Berwick and the Chain or Suspension bridge, which serves as a communication with Northumberland, for the importation of lime and coal: it joins the Edinburgh road $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles east from Greenlaw, and its length is four miles. The other, from Coldstream to Dunse, two miles long, crosses the parish in the east end. Both roads are Macadamized, and the tolls are without the parish. The length of the whole roads within the parish is about sixteen miles.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is the only place of public worship, and is situate nearly in the centre of the parish. At what time it was built is unknown. The walls and roof were repaired in 1755, and having been re-seated and plastered in 1817, the church is now in a good condition. It contains about 200 persons, and the seats are all free.

The last two Episcopal ministers were Messrs Methven, father and son, whose monuments are still remaining in the churchyard, with the inscriptions legible. They were succeeded by John Pringle, in 1659; William Home, in 1722; John Todd, in 1785; George Moodie, in 1693; William Home, in 1757; George M'Lean, in 1814.

The only benefactions are, a mortification of about L. 6 a-year, paid out of the lands of Charter-Hall and Harcarse, for the poor; and a bursary to St Andrews, in the gift of Mortonhall.

The manse and offices were built in 1787, and repaired in 1814 and 1822. They are in good condition.

The glebe contains eleven acres five perches English, exclusive of fences, but including the garden and site of the buildings. The soil is a deep loam of excellent quality, and might let from L. 25 to L. 30. The stipend, which was a trifle above eleven chalders, was augmented to fifteen chalders, half meal, half barley, in 1830, with

the old allowance of L. 8, 6s. 8d for communion elements, and there is still a considerable surplus of free teind.

About two-thirds of the families belong to the church, and are in general punctual in their attendance; and one-third are dissenters of the United Secession or Relief. These go to Dunse or Greenlaw, in the first of which there are three, and in the last, two congregations.

The average number of church communicants is from 140 to 150. The church collections for the poor are trifling,—not more than L. 4 or L. 5 per annum. The tenants give little, as they are assessed, and the working-classes can afford and give still less. Collections for other purposes are rare. There have been only three or four within these twenty years, for extra-parochial objects.

Education.—The only school in the parish is the parochial,—in which are taught, besides the ordinary branches, mensuration and Latin. The teacher has the minimum salary, being by conversion L. 25, 13s. 3½d., also about L. 8 as heritors' clerk and as precentor: and the whole emoluments, with school fees and other perquisites, may average L. 45 per annum, besides a house and garden.

All children in the parish are early taught to read, and there are no persons of any age above six, unable to read.

The average number of persons receiving parochial aid for the last seven years is 10; they have received from 1s. to 3s. per week. The average assessment for the same period, paid by the heritors and tenants, each one-half, was L. 54,—giving L. 6, 8s. to each pauper per annum. Paupers are at first reluctant to apply for assistance, but, when once enrolled, they become less so.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

It will appear from the above facts, that, since the time of the last Statistical Account, a considerable extent of waste land (1200 acres) has been enclosed and planted, or brought under cultivation; that the land has been much improved by draining; and that the roads are in good repair, as a proof of which, it may be mentioned, that grain, and even lime and coals, which it formerly required six horses to carry, may now be easily carted by a single horse. There is not a farm in the parish but has a thrashing-machine. And, except a little occasional draining, it does not appear that much more can be done in this parish in the way of improvement.

August 1834.

PARISH OF POLWARTH.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. ROBERT HOME,
THE REV. WALTER HOME, A. & S. } MINISTERS.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries, &c.—THE parish of Polwarth lies nearly in the middle of the county of Berwick, forming part of the boundary between its upland and low districts. It is in the form of a triangle, the base of which is bounded by the parish of Langton; the east and west sides are bounded respectively by the two parishes of Fogo and Greenlaw. The parish is about three miles in length; its greatest breadth does not exceed two; and it occupies a space of 4.767 square miles.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface presents nothing very remarkable in character; from Kyles-hill, which rises to a moderate elevation in the western extremity, the ground gradually slopes in gentle undulations to the east. These eminences extend also into the southern angle of the parish, and, being covered with plantations and groups of trees, give the whole a very pleasing and romantic appearance.

Geology.—The southern district is the most fertile; it belongs to the new red sandstone formation. The northern belongs to the old red sandstone formation; and is poor and barren. The rock in the first of these is a dark marly stone, sometimes running into a white variety; in the second, the old red sandstone, which is continued from the adjoining parish of Greenlaw, is generally coarse and often conglomerate. Kyles-hill consists of a hard reddish porphyry; the basis of which is clay containing crystals of felspar interspersed through it. The soil of the district is for the most part clay, but beds of sand and gravel here and there intervene.

Botany.—The Flora of the parish is, from its small extent, very limited. *Campanula latifolia*, *Acer campestre*, and *Spiræa salicifolia*, occur in Marchmont woods. *Agaricus muscarius* and *Alectoria jubata*, on Kyles-hill.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Polwarth forms part of the Marchmont estates, and now belongs to Sir Hugh Purves Hume Campbell, Bart., who is sole proprietor. Marchmont House, built by Hugh the last earl, about eighty years ago, is his residence.

Antiquities.—The church stands on the edge of a beautiful glade in the grounds of Marchmont, half concealed by aged trees. It is a plain substantial building. From an inscription on the walls, it appears to have been first built prior to the year 900, when it was endowed as a rectory; and subsequently repaired in 1378. From the date of this inscription * (1703) the church appears to have been then rebuilt upon its ancient foundation walls, these bearing evident marks of a much greater age than the superstructure. Beneath the church is a vault, the cemetery of the Marchmont family, in which Sir Patrick Hume lay concealed during the times of religious intolerance. To this nobleman, who is known to history as a statesman and patriot, and also as a man of a large and enlightened mind, a brief remembrance is due in a Statistical Account of his native place. The tomb which the necessities of the times had thus converted into the abode of the living, afforded for some time a refuge to its unfortunate inmate. He was here attended by his daughter Lady Grizel Baillie, a person also of historical celebrity from the proofs she has left of a masculine mind and exalted virtue. Chiefly through her means Sir Patrick escaped to Holland; he returned to Scotland at the Revolution, after which he was successively advanced to the honours of Lord Polwarth and Earl of Marchmont.

Parochial Registers.—More light might perhaps have been thrown on the biography and antiquities of this parish, had its parochial registers been in existence; but these were unfortunately destroyed about forty-five years ago; the schoolmaster's house where they were kept having been accidentally burned to the ground. It is proper to add, that the parochial registers have been regularly kept ever since.

* This inscription appearing worthy of preservation is here subjoined.

"Templum hoc Dei cultui in ecclesia de Polwarth, a fundi dominis ejusdem prius designationis, dein cognominis ædificatum et dicatum ante annum salutis 900, rectorisque beneficio dotatum. Sed temporis cursu laefactum, a Dno Johanne de Sancto Claro de Herdmanston, genero Dni Patricii de Polwarth de eodem, circa annum 1378, reparatum, tandem vero vetustate ad ruinam vergens, sumptibus utriusque prosapiæ hæredis, Dni Patricii Hume, Comitissæ de Marchmont, &c., summi Scotiæ Chancellarii, et Dnae Grissellæ Kar, Comitissæ, ejus sponsæ, sepulchri sacello arcuate recens constructum, et campanarum obelisco aductum fuit, Anno Domini, 1703."

III.—POPULATION.

The number of inhabitants, as reported by Dr Webster in 1755, was 251. In 1793, the number was 288, divided among 72 families, of whom 55 resided in the village of Polwarth. In the years 1801, 1811, 1821, and 1831, the numbers returned were respectively 291, 307, 298, 288, according to the census.

Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	64
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	28
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	15

The population, as appears from what is said above, is principally gathered into the village of Polwarth. The trades in the village are : wrights, 3 ; masons, 6 ; smiths, 1 ; weavers, 3 ; shoemakers, 2 ; carters, 2.

The village itself is situated on very wet and swampy ground, yet the place is healthy ; and neither rheumatic nor aguish complaints prevail in any remarkable degree. The houses are much scattered,—seldom more than two or three being situated together. It is probably owing to this circumstance that epidemic distempers are not very apt to spread.

Character and Habits of the People.—From the secluded situation of Polwarth, and the unvarying nature of the occupations of the inhabitants in agriculture, a considerable degree of simplicity prevails in the character and manners of the people. They are attached to their native place, and seldom think of removing from it. Most of the families in the village have been resident for several generations. Within these few years, however, a few persons have emigrated to North America,—chiefly to Upper Canada. This may, perhaps, account for the fact, that there has been no increase in the population since 1793 ; the number at present being the same as then.

The manner of living among the people is such as to keep them orderly in their habits, and comfortable for their condition in life. Almost every householder, along with his house, rents from one to two acres of land ; these are locally denominated *an acre*. With this and the aid of a garden, and the use of a considerable extent of moor from the indulgence of the proprietor, they are enabled to keep a cow, and most of them also to rear a calf. As the rents of their little possessions are very moderate, there are always several competitors for every house which may become empty. The two carters have a larger portion of land, and keep two horses, with which they plough their neighbours' acres and bring home the turf, which is their principal fuel.

A custom once prevailed in this parish which is not unworthy of

notice here. In the midst of the village are two thorn trees near to each other; round these every newly married pair were expected to dance with all their friends; from hence arose the old song of "Polwarth on the Green."

Instances of longevity are not uncommon. The present incumbent, who has been sixty-four years minister, is eighty-nine years of age, and is the oldest clergyman in the Church of Scotland. Several of the parish paupers have also attained to a great age.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The agriculture of this parish is of the most approved kind. The soil is various. But the greatest part of it is clay, some of which is on a tilly bed, and is best adapted for grass; other parts of it are gravelly, and some sandy. On the north-west is a considerable extent of moor.

The whole parish is enclosed except a small farm, and the moor which is allotted by the proprietor to the use of the village for pasture and fuel. A great deal of land is in old grass, which is subdivided into enclosures of from ten to thirty acres, all sufficiently watered. These are let annually, and bring very high rents, for the accommodation of those farmers who breed more stock than they can maintain at home.

The principal crops are oats, barley, turnips, a little wheat, and occasionally a few pease and beans. There is a considerable quantity of old timber of good size, besides extensive young plantations, which are in general very thriving.

We here give a tabular statement of the manner in which the whole land of the parish is occupied.

Acres.
1281.32, Arable.
398.10, Wood.
259.37, Pasture.
1014.30, Moor.
39.53, Roads.
28.40, Fences.
17.85, Houses.
13.08, Moss.

3051.95. Total number of acres in Polwarth parish.

Rent of Land.—The valued rent of the parish is L. 1624 Scotch; the real rent is L. 1730 Sterling. Grass land lets at from 10s. to L. 2, 5s. per acre; arable land, from 10s. to L. 2, 2s.

<i>Produce.</i> —Grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals,							L. 1368 0 0		
Potatoes, turnips, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	-	402	0	0
Hay,	-	-	-	-	-	-	430	0	0
Land in pasture,	-	-	-	-	-	-	1097	0	0

Total yearly value of raw produce raised, - L. 3297 0 0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication, &c.—Polwarth has no market; for this it is dependent on Dunse, which is four miles distant, and on Greenlaw, which is three. The parish is intersected by the road from Dunse to Edinburgh, and a stage-coach between these places passes the village daily. There are parish and private roads, which are all kept in good repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is centrally situated, and is regularly attended by all the people, except two or three, who are Dissenters. There is no dissenting place of worship. The average number of communicants is about 120.

The stipend, which received an augmentation in 1814, consists of 64 bolls oats, 80 barley, 80 oatmeal, with L. 5, 11s. 1½d. Sterling in money. The manse is an old house with additions, part of which were made at the expense of the present incumbent. The glebe is about fourteen English acres.

Education.—There is a sufficient school-house, with a residence for the teacher. The salary is L. 28, with about an acre of land. The school is attended, on an average, by forty-five scholars. The probable yearly amount of fees actually paid to the teacher is L. 19.

Poor.—The poor on the roll of the parish amount to 9; and the present annual assessment for their support is L. 50. The reason of the largeness of this sum is, that the parish has to support a lunatic in an asylum, at an expense of L. 23, 10s. per annum. All the poor on the roll that reside in the parish have a free house and garden from the late Sir W. P. H. Campbell of Marchmont. His benevolence extended also to others, particularly to the widows of those connected with the estate. At his demise in the beginning of 1833, he farther, by an heritable bond of annuity executed by him, bequeathed L. 25 Sterling per annum for the use and behoof of the poor of Polwarth.

Besides the enrolled poor, there are others who receive occasional relief. This is afforded partly from a fund of mortified money (L. 111), the interest of which is distributed by the kirk-session, and partly from the collections at the church-doors, which may amount to L. 5 annually.

July 1834.

PARISH OF LANGTON.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. JOHN BROWN, D. D. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THE name of this parish is derived from the village of Langton or Lang-tun, which was probably so called from its long straggling figure. It extended at one time from the immediate neighbourhood of Langton House almost to the eastern limits of the parish. But, as it interfered with some improvements which Mr Gavin, a former proprietor, wished to introduce, he offered to the inhabitants, on advantageous terms, another situation about half a mile distant. They accepted his offer,—removed in 1760,—and, in honour of its founder, named the new village Gavinton.

The figure of the parish is irregularly triangular, about $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles in mean length, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in breadth. It contains $11\frac{1}{4}$ square miles, lying partly in the Merse and partly among the Lammermoors, which, under the name of Langton-Edge, run from east to west. Their height may be about 900 feet above the level of the sea. Langton-Burn, almost the only stream in the parish, is so small as scarcely to deserve notice. It runs eastward, and joins the Blackadder. The air, like that of the surrounding district, has always been reckoned pure, and the situation healthy.

Botany.—That part of the parish which lies among the Lammermoors is almost completely covered with heath and some of the coarser grasses. By the sides of its streams, and in marshy situations, may be found *Myosotis repens* of Don, *Veronica scutellata* with its flowers sometimes white, and the beautiful *Sedum villosum*. *Viola lutea* grows sparingly on the hills; *Saxifraga hirculus* has been lately discovered; and, for the last two summers, *Hypnum stramineum* has been noticed in fruit in a boggy situation, which does not seem to have been elsewhere observed. Its fruit is perfect in June. Near Langton-Lees there is a small stream, the steep banks of which are covered with natural wood. Its most interesting plants

are *Rubus saxatilis*, *Cnicus heterophyllus*, *Gymnostomum tenue*, and *Hookeria lucens*. A little farther down, the same stream enters and passes through Langton-Wood, a scene of much natural beauty. Among its banks are found, more or less plentifully, *Veronica montana*, *Rumex sanguineus*, (variety with red veins,) *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, *Hieracium molle*, *Hypnum alopecurum*, (in fruit,) and *Orthotrichum diaphanum*. In the lower, and cultivated parts of the parish, *Cerastium arvense*, *Tragopogon major*, (lately added to the British Flora,) *Anthoceros punctatus*, and *Peziza Macropus*, are the most remarkable plants.

The following species are not rare, but may deserve notice, as not having been observed elsewhere in Berwickshire:—*Bidens cernua*, *Myosotis sylvatica*, *Gymnostomum fasciculare*, *Bryum marginatum*, *Hypnum piliferum*, *H. murale*, *Jungermannia reptans*, *J. tomentilla*, *Sticta fuliginosa*.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—From its situation, the village of Langton was exposed to all the misfortunes of Border warfare. It was burned in 1558 by Sir Henry Percy and Sir George Bowes, and at other times pillaged by marauding parties from England.

During the reign of David I. the manor of Langton, with the advowson of the church, belonged to Roger de Ow, a Northumbrian follower of Prince Henry. Roger de Ow granted to the monks of Kelso the church of Langton, which was accordingly held by Henry the Parson. From him the estate passed to William de Vetereponte, or Vipont, who continued to these monks the church with its tithes and lands, adding also those of Coleman's Flat.

In 1296, John Vicar of Langton swore fealty to Edward I. at Berwick, and, in return, obtained a writ for the restitution of his vicarage.

The first Vipont was succeeded by his eldest son by his first wife, Emma de St Hilary, and this family continued Lords of Langton till Sir William Vipont was killed at Bannockburn in 1314. Immediately after this, the estate passed into the family of Cockburn by marriage with the heiress of Vipont. Alexander Cockburn of Langton was keeper of the great seal to Roberts II. and III. He was made hereditary *Ostiarius Parliamenti*, and this office was annexed to the barony of Langton by charter of James IV. February 20, 1504.

William Cockburn of Langton was created a baronet by Charles I. in 1627. Sir Alexander Cockburn was killed in the

battle of Fontenoy. The estate continued in their family till 1758, when it was sold to David Gavin, Esq.

Antiquities.—On the hill near Raecleugh-head, the traces of two military stations still remain. The ditches are very entire, and belonged, it is thought, to a Danish encampment. The traces of another encampment are also to be seen on the moor near Choice-Lee, where a regiment was stationed after the rebellion of 1715 to keep the Jacobites in awe. The place is still called Camp-Muir.

In 1792, when removing a large cairn from the top of the Crumstane-hill, close to the site of the present church, several earthen urns of various sizes were discovered. They contained human bones, but bore no inscription. Stone coffins were also found on the farms of Middlefield and Crease, one of which was $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, 2 deep, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ broad. In 1813, a bracelet of gold was found in a small stream at the Battle-Muir. It measured nine inches in circumference, and was sold for L. 36.

III.—POPULATION.

The following is a state of the population at different periods when a census was taken :

	Males.	Females.	Total.
1755, -			290
1793, -	211	224	435
1801, -	189	239	428
1811, -	199	219	418
1821, -	219	258	477
1831, -	215	228	443
1833,			503

Some extensive improvements on the grounds at Langton House, begun since the census of 1831, by affording occupation for more workmen, may in part account for the increased population of 1833.

The average number of births for the last seven years, as entered in the parish register, is $9\frac{3}{7}$. Dissenters do not commonly register the births of their children.

The village of Gavinton contains 243 inhabitants. The rest of the population live on the various farms.

Number of individuals above 70,	-	-	24
unmarried men above 50,		-	10
unmarried women above 45,		-	19
families in the parish,	-	-	96
chiefly employed in agriculture,		-	48
in trade, manufactures, and handicraft,			22

The parish, with one or two trifling exceptions, belongs to the Marchioness of Breadalbane, who usually resides here during part of the year, and has of late made great improvements on the grounds around Langton House.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The northern part of the pa-

rish, containing about 4000 imperial acres, lies among the Lammemoors, and is fit only for sheep-pasture. The rest is arable, consisting of about 3000 acres, 900 of which are annually let as grass parks. About 200 acres are covered by wood. Oak, ash, elm, beech, birch, plane, Scotch fir, spruce, and larch, are the kinds grown, and they are all in a thriving condition. The recent plantations, which amount to about 100 acres, will soon afford important shelter to the various farms.

Rent of Land.—The rent of arable land varies from 17s. to about L. 3 per English acre. It may average L. 1, 7s. The average rent of grass lately has been L. 3, 17s. 6d. per cow, L. 2, 10s. per ox, and 12s. per sheep. The cattle are chiefly of the Tees-water breed, the sheep Leicester and Cheviot, with a few black-faced.

Rate of Wages.—The yearly wages of a farm-servant are 10 bolls of oats, 3 of barley, 1 of pease, L. 3 in cash, and he has a cow kept, which is equal to L. 6 more. While he is cutting and carrying in the crop, his food is provided by the farmer. He has, besides, a house, a small garden, and half a rood of land for potatoes, for all which he furnishes a labourer in time of harvest. He also provides a labourer for hoeing turnips, &c. and for this he is allowed 10d. per day.

The wages of an unmarried servant, besides board, are L. 8 per annum; those of a female-servant from L. 6 to L. 7, 7s. The wages of shepherds are the same with those of farm-servants, except that, instead of L. 3 in cash, they have a few sheep grazed, varying in number according to the nature of the pasture.

Day-labourers on farms receive from 8s. to 9s. per week. They work ten hours in summer, and in winter as long as day-light lasts. While the corn is carrying in, farm-servants are ready to work at all times, labouring sometimes the greater part of the night. Scarcely any class of men is more respectable than the farm-servants of Berwickshire. They are intelligent, industrious, and sober.

Masons, in summer, work ten hours, in winter about seven and a-half or eight. During the summer of 1833, they had 14s. per week, and for the three preceding seasons 13s. For a short time last winter they had 11s., but afterwards 10s., which had been the rate of their wages for three preceding years. Wrights work the same number of hours with masons, and their wages are nearly the same.

Smiths are allowed L. 2, 10s., with the driving of a cart of coals (valued at 8s.) for keeping up the iron work required for a pair of farm-horses. This includes shoes, the iron work of a

plough, harrows, and cart, exclusively of wheels and axletree. Other work, as that connected with gates or machinery, is charged at 5d. per lb. The shoe of a riding-horse costs 8d.

Husbandry.—The arable farms are managed in five divisions, (or *breaks*, as they are called,) viz. 1. oats; 2. turnips or fallow, according to the nature of the soil; 3. barley or wheat; 4 and 5. grass for two years. This system is prescribed by all the leases on the Langton estate. The turnips are generally eaten on the ground by sheep confined by nets or hurdles. In sowing grain some of the farmers use machines,—a practice which seems rapidly extending.

The kinds of grain commonly sown are wheat, barley, oats, beans, and pease, of which the average produce is towards six bolls per English acre; potatoes yield from 30 to 40 bolls; hay, from 150 to 250 stones, or a little more; turnips, when led off the land, sell at from L. 6 to L. 9; when eaten on the ground, from L. 3, 10s. to L. 5 per acre.

The quantity of grain of all kinds amounts to about 3500 bolls. Two hundred and fifty acres of turnips, and about 150 of hay, are usually grown.

The rental of the parish is a little above L. 4000.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Village.—Gavinton is the only village in the parish, and Dunse, which is two miles distant, is both our market and post-town.

Ecclesiastical State, &c.—The present church was erected in 1798 at the west end of the village of Gavinton. Till that time the old church, which stood near Langton-House, had continued to be used. It is impossible to ascertain when the latter was built. It must, however, have been at a very remote period, for no notice of its erection occurs in the books of the presbytery, and there are tombstones in the churchyard bearing the date of 1620. It seems to have required no repairs at the parochial visitation called in 1684 by order of the Bishop of Edinburgh, while Mr Patrick Walker was minister. At the next visitation in 1700, the presbytery are said to have found “several things necessary to compleat y^e same;” and the moderator, by their appointment, “recommended y^e persons concerned to see to y^e repair y^rof.” At a third visitation in 1721, they discovered that “the roof was in ill condition,” and in 1727 it fell to the ground. It then underwent a thorough repair, and stood till the present church was erected.

At the visitation in 1684, the manse and offices were condemn-

ed by the presbytery, after hearing the evidence (on oath) of Messrs William Moscript and James Walkinshaw, wrights, and John, Daniel, and Alexander Gilkie,* masons. A new manse and offices were then built on a different site; and an excambion of the glebe took place, with the consent of Sir Alexander Cockburn of Langton, and Alexander Cockburn of Blacksmiln, who were present at the meeting. The manse then built was occupied till 1766, when the present was erected by Mr Gavin. Another excambion of the glebe was then also agreed to, but subsequently amended, as being less advantageous to the living. In the year 1819, an important addition to the manse was made by the late Marquis of Breadalbane.

The minister of Langton before the Restoration was Mr John Burn, who retained his charge till the time of his death in 1677. He seems to have been an exceedingly pious and amiable man. More zealously attached to Presbyterian principles than many of his brethren, he attended the presbytery only twice after the establishment of Episcopacy, and yet he remained unmolested till the year 1670, when he allowed some of the ejected ministers to assist him at a communion. He experienced much kindness and countenance from the Cockburns of Langton. Like the Humes of Polwarth and Redbraes, and the Kerrs of Nisbet, this distinguished family was eminent for piety, and suffered in the cause of civil and religious liberty. In 1679 they established a meeting in one of the houses attached to Langton Castle, where they had regularly preaching from Mr Luke Ogle,† (the friend of Mr Gilbert Rule, afterwards Principal of the University of Edinburgh,) Mr John Veitch of Westruther, and Mr Daniel Douglas. This meeting must have been connived at by the bishop and the Duke of Lauderdale, for none of the parishioners were molested for attending it, except John Galloway, the beadle, whom the presbytery appointed to be “put out of his office.” There is reason to believe that practical religion flourished greatly in the parish, and that the preaching of Mr Ogle was eagerly resorted to by serious

* The last three were ancestors of some of the present inhabitants of Gavinton.

† Sir Alexander Cockburn resided at that time in Langton Castle, which stood in what is now called the Little Byres Park. A chapel was soon afterwards erected in Langton-wood, opposite Haining-Rigg, which was occupied by Mr Ogle, and where John Veitch is reported to have preached occasionally, and baptized the children of some of the parishioners. The Duke of Lauderdale, though applied to by some of the Episcopalians, refused to institute proceedings against Mr Veitch for preaching in the chapel. After the Revolution, when the parish church was again filled by a Presbyterian minister, it is probable that the chapel was granted to the handful of Episcopalians who resided in the neighbourhood; and from this circumstance it was erroneously supposed to have been an Episcopal chapel.

individuals from the neighbouring districts. Two Episcopalian ministers held the living before the Revolution,—Mr Robert Hooper from 1677 to 1683, and Mr Patrick Walker from 1683 to 1688. The first seems to have been a peaceable man; the second was a bigotted prelatist. Mr Dysart, who was afterwards translated to Coldingham, was the first minister after the Revolution. The next was Mr Dawson, a highly respectable clergyman. He was succeeded in 1727 by his son, Mr James Dawson, who in 1733 was translated to the parish of St Cuthberts. Since that time the living has been held by Mr James Lawrie, who was removed to Hawick in 1757; Dr David Johnston promoted to North Leith in 1765; Mr Andrew Smith, who died in 1789; Mr Alexander Girvan, (formerly minister of Lunan,) who died in 1809; and the present incumbent.

The records of session reach no farther back than 10th September 1727: but there was a more ancient book, which was regularly presented to the presbytery both before the re-establishment of Episcopacy and after the Revolution. It seems to have been the only session-book within their bounds which, except in a single instance, was never transmitted while they were under the government of bishops. The minutes of presbytery for December 6, 1659, state, that “the session-book of Lantoune had been delivered;” and it is mentioned in the account of the visitation of the parish in 1700, that “the presbytery having caled for y^e church Bible, Confession of Faith,”—of which every session was required to have a copy, as well as of the formula to be subscribed by the elders before they entered on the exercise of their office,—“the acts of y^e General Assembly, session-register, and poor’s-box, they were produced and laid before y^e presbytery.” At the visitation of 1721, though the presbytery found that the session had no church Bible, nor Confession of Faith, nor the later acts of Assembly, and ordered them to be bought, yet, when the session-register was called for, it was presented. When laid before them at Dunse the following year, they approved of it in all respects, except an allowance of half-a-crown given by the session to the elder who represented them in the synod, and which the presbytery declared that “they would not suffer to be done by any session within their bounds.”

The first part of the records which remains extends to February 1733, and is deeply interesting. It exhibits a view of the session and of their management of the parish, so admirably fitted to promote the interests of religion, that, if realized at present throughout the parishes of Scotland, it would demonstrate the superior efficiency of an ecclesiastical establishment more irresistibly than

any speculative argument. The session was not only composed of elders who had the spiritual superintendence of particular districts which were marked out and assigned to each, but in accordance with the Acts of Assembly, (which are still binding,) of a corresponding number of deacons who attended to the poor in their several bounds, and assisted at the communion. The minutes always run thus, "Sederunt minister, elders and deacons." It does not appear whether they observed the directions of the General Assembly of 1723, and required the elders when they were ordained to sign the formula contained in the 10th act of the Assembly 1694, but the attention which they paid to their other duties renders this highly probable. They not only assembled from time to time for the exercise of discipline, in which they appear to have been mild and prudent, for electing commissioners to the presbytery and synod, and for examining the communion-roll before the sacrament, but they had frequent meetings for prayer and conference respecting the state of the parish. At these meetings other members besides the moderator engaged in devotion, and he was accustomed to give such exhortations as these,—that they should be "faithful in the exercise of their offices, and give information to the session what irregularities were committed in their several quarters, that so a check might timeously be put to any appearances of vice, and that they themselves should behave in an exemplary manner in their respective bounds."

And along with these attentions on the part of the elders to the conduct of the members, and on the part of the deacons to the necessities of the poor, a kind and steady superintendence was maintained by the presbytery over the ministers and sessions in the different parishes, which must have been followed by the most beneficial results. It was common to call for their records once in two years, and appoint them to be examined. The following is an example of the vigilance which they exercised respecting the deportment of ministers, and a striking proof of their solicitude for their usefulness. "*March 1, 1709.*—The presbytery this day taking again into consideration the affair anent the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and finding that there has offence been given by the sumptuousness of dinners after sacraments, and the great number of persons resorting thereto, do therefore discharge all the members within their bounds from having any persons whatsoever on the Munday or other days at their dinners, except the ministers who have been assisting, and appoint that their discourse at that time be spiritual." At the parochial visitations questions were

put by the presbytery, first to the elders respecting the walk, conversation, and doctrine of the minister; then to the congregation respecting the elders and deacons; then respecting the schoolmaster, session-clerk, precentor, and beadle; and, last of all, to the session respecting the congregation. It is impossible to conceive a system more fitted to promote the diligence and faithfulness of ministers, or the spiritual and moral improvement of parishes. Its effects, accordingly, were visible in a diminution of crime, and an increase of personal and family religion among the surrounding districts.

The next part of the records, from 11th February 1733 to 7th July 1747, has been lost,—through a mistake, it is said, on the part of an ignorant individual who destroyed both these and the more ancient minutes. The rest have been preserved.

The session has at present a copy of the acts of Assembly, and of the formula contained in the 10th act of Assembly 1694, which has been subscribed by the elders. The late Mr Gavin presented them with a pair of silver communion cups; his daughter, Miss Elizabeth Gavin, with a silver baptismal basin; and Lady Elizabeth Pringle, daughter of the late Marquis of Breadalbane, presented them in 1827 with a handsome pulpit Bible and psalm-book. The church, which is at present in excellent repair, contains 250 sittings, all of which are free.

The glebe consists of 10 acres. The stipend consists of L.122, 5s. 4 $\frac{7}{2}$ d., and of 67 bolls, 2 bushels, 2 pecks, 3 quarts, 0.103 of oats, and 38 bolls, 3 bushels, 1 peck, 2 quarts, 1 pint, 972 of barley paid by the Marchioness of Breadalbane; and of 3 bushels, 2 pecks, 1 gallon, 2 quarts, 1 pint, 179 of oats, and 2 bushels, 3 quarts, 1.6.255 of barley paid by Mr Hay of Dunse Castle. The teinds are supposed to be nearly exhausted.

The Dissenters attend the different chapels in Dunse. Their number throughout the parish is about a third of the population. In the village of Gavinton, containing (September 1833) a population of 243, there were of Churchmen, 182; of the Relief, 33; Burgher and Antiburgher, 28.

It must be observed, however, that among the farm-servants,—a population much less stationary than the inhabitants of villages,—the proportion of Dissenters is greater. The number of communicants in the Established Church averages from 210 to 232.

Education.—The parochial schoolmaster has, for the last seven years, been unfit for duty, and has resigned the management of the school, retaining the salary, which amounts to L. 25, 4s. 4d., with his dwelling-house and garden. An assistant and successor has

been appointed, who, besides a house and garden, and a salary of L. 20 paid by the Marchioness of Breadalbane, receives the school fees and other emoluments. His income may amount to L. 60. The average number of scholars is between 60 and 70. The school is taught on the most approved principles, and the fees charged are,—English reading, 2s. 6d. per quarter; writing, 3s.; arithmetic, 3s. 6d.; geography, 5s.; practical mathematics, 5s.; Latin, 6s.; Greek, 7s. 6d.; French, 7s. 6d.; theoretical mathematics, 8s. 6d. The gross amount of the fees received is about L. 32. There is no other school in the parish.

A Sabbath school is taught by the assistant-schoolmaster, with the aid of some respectable individuals, and under the superintendence of the minister. It has existed, with two short intervals, for nearly twenty years, and has been attended with the most important advantages. There is a library for adults, containing some valuable books in history, biography, and divinity.

Charitable Institutions.—The only institution of this nature is a Friendly Society, instituted in 1803. Its object is to provide support for those members who are suffering from sickness, or who are permanently disabled by the infirmities of age, and to defray, in part, their funeral expenses, with those of their wives. Every applicant must be of a good moral character,—of a healthy constitution,—not exceeding forty years of age,—and must produce a certificate signed by respectable individuals, stating that he is a peaceable member of society. Members are received from any part of the county; but, from the existence of similar societies in Allanton, Chirnside, Swinton, and Dunse, applications are rarely made by persons living at a distance. The terms are, a sum of 7s. 6d. as entry-money, and a permanent quarterly subscription of 1s. 6d. No one is entitled to assistance till after being three years connected with the society. If he should by irregular conduct bring on illness, he receives no aid, but, on the contrary, is liable to a fine not exceeding 5s. Before aid can in any case be granted, the member, if residing in the village of Gavinton, must, within a week, apprise the deputy-director of his illness; or, if living elsewhere, he must apprise the preses or treasurer. Every application must be accompanied by a certificate from the minister and an elder. If a dispute arise between the society and any of its members, it is referred to the decision of two individuals,—one chosen by each party. Should these umpires not agree, they are empowered to choose a third, by whose decision the parties are bound.

The number of members at present on the roll is 146. Those receiving aid are 32, of whom 9 are superannuated and 23 sick.

At an average, the society relieves 21 sick persons and 7 superannuated. The largest sum given to a member when sick is 4s. per week, and this is continued, if required, for three months, after which it is reduced. The least sum is 1s. per week. L. 3 are allowed to defray the expenses of a member's funeral, and L. 1, 10s. for that of his wife.

This society was for a long time exceedingly prosperous; but latterly, like those in the neighbourhood, it has received only a small addition to the number of its members. Its allowance was at first more liberal than the funds would admit, and was consequently reduced,—a circumstance which probably deterred many from joining it. Still it is exceedingly useful; and, as the rate has for some time been stationary, strong hopes are entertained that it will revive.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The annual assessments have been greatly reduced, chiefly by the temporary aid which is furnished from the weekly collections in church to those individuals or families who may require it. They are thus enabled to extricate themselves from difficulties, and prevented from coming permanently on the roll. To enable the session to afford this assistance, the whole of the collections since the commencement of the present incumbent's ministry have been placed at their disposal. The allowance to paupers on the roll averages 1s. 9d. per week; but the session also gives occasional donations of meal and coal during winter, and 8s. or 10s. to each after the communion. In some instances a weekly allowance of 4s. has been given to individuals who had formerly been in more prosperous circumstances; but these instances have been rare. Widows with three or four young children have received 4s. and have had their children educated, sometimes at the expense of the session, sometimes at that of the heritors. It is due to the benevolence of the Marchioness of Breckinridge to say, that there is not a parish in Berwickshire where more liberal provision has been made for the poor.

In 1832 the assessment amounted to L. 29, exclusive of L. 2, 10s. paid to the collector. The number of paupers on the roll was 5, one of whom was so old as to require the attendance of another individual. The collections at the church doors amounted to L. 29, 3s. 0½d. Of this, L. 6, 17s. was paid to the precentor, session-clerk, beadle, presbytery and synod clerks. The remaining L. 22, 6s. 0½d. was distributed, partly among the poor on the roll, and partly among ten individuals not receiving stated assistance.

August 1834.

PARISH OF DUNSE.

PRESBYTERY OF DUNSE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. GEORGE CUNNINGHAM, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries.—THE ancient name of the town and parish of Dunse was Duns, from the Celtic *Dhun* or *Dun*, a hill; the ancient site of the town having been towards the north-west side of a beautiful hill called Dunse-Law, till it was burnt by the English. From this circumstance, the fields occupying the space in which the town was formerly situated are now called Brunton. Soon after the year 1588 the present town began to be built in a lower situation on the skirts of the southern side of the hill, from which the town derives its name; then the name was corrupted into *Dunse*.

The extreme length of the parish is about 6 miles from south-east to north-west; its mean breadth about $3\frac{1}{2}$; so that its extent in square miles is about 18 or 19 miles. Its figure is so irregular as not to admit of any more exact description, than that, towards its northern and southern extremities, its breadth is between three and four miles, and in the middle, less than two miles. It is bounded by the parish of Edrom on the east, south, and south-east; by Bunkle and a detached part of Longformacus on the north-east; by Abbey St Bathans on the north; and by another part of Longformacus and by Langton on the west.

Topographical Appearances.—The Lammermoor range of hills runs along the northern side of the parish; in which may be included Cockburn-Law, about 912 feet above the level of the sea, the conical figure of which, so different from the gibbous shape of the neighbouring hills, renders it a land-mark to mariners coming from the east. There are scarcely any valleys or absolutely flat lands in the parish; but in the south and east, which are the most fertile parts of it, the ground, to the extent of two or three square miles, rises into gentle swells, ranging from a point north of east to a point south of west; from which circumstance the meridian

generally adopted by those who are not very accurate in their observations is placed a little to the eastward of its proper position. Dunse-Law is 630 feet above the level of the sea.

Hydrography.—The river Whitadder runs along the northern and eastern sides of the parish, and forms its boundary with the parishes of Longformacus and Bunkle. The nearest point at which it approaches the town of Dunse is distant two miles.—Langtonburn, a rivulet, rises in the parish from which it receives its name, and forming the southern boundary of this parish with Edrom, joins the Blackadder a little below Wedderburn; through part of which estate it passes.

The Dunse spa, analyzed by Dr Francis Home about the year 1751, at which time it was in much repute, is now entirely neglected,—having sunk in reputation ever since it was analyzed. Its waters having become mixed with the ordinary springs in the neighbourhood are considered as destitute of any efficacy. This spring, though called Dunse spa, is within the limits of the parish of Edrom.

There is an artificial lake near Dunse Castle formed about a century ago, which is very ornamental to the place.

Considering its distance from any river, Dunse is remarkably well supplied with soft water. Till within these few years, its supply of that article, so essential to cleanliness, health, and comfort, depended entirely on a spring conveyed from the top of Dunse-Law, and there was plenty of hard-water in wells dug in every part of the town; but by the application of a considerable sum of money bequeathed by the late Alexander Christie, Esq. of Grueldykes, and the liberal permission of William Hay, Esq. of Dunse Castle, an inexhaustible supply of excellent water, fit for all purposes, has now been brought in pipes from a spring near the site of the old town of Duns.

Geology and Mineralogy.—Cockburn-Law affords an interesting subject of investigation to the geologist; and the following notices are furnished by a friend well skilled in the science of geology, who informs me that it is one of those detached hills which so frequently occur in Scotland to perplex the geologist. The Whitadder encircles it on three sides, the rocks in the bed of the river being principally greywacke and greywacke-slate, the characterizing rocks of the transition series. The neighbouring hills are also principally composed of these rocks. Cockburn-Law itself, however, is a great mass of unstratified rocks, the principal of which are por-

phyry and granite, with occasional beds of greenstone. The granite forms the highest part of the hill, porphyry being situated lower down. The granite appears to be the same as that which occurs at Fasney Water, at some distance to the westward, and which has been the subject of such keen discussion between the Wernerians and Huttonians. The former have called it transition sienite, but this on Cockburn-Law has all the component parts of granite, and these disposed in the usual way. The hill is detached in this manner from all the surrounding hills,—being composed of rocks totally dissimilar and unstratified, and surrounded at the base by regularly stratified rocks, which, from their present appearance and position in many places, seem to have suffered great violence. The same formations cross the Whitadder eastward into the parish of Bunkle. Between Cockburn-Law and Dunse a narrow stripe may be traced of old red sandstone, the first and oldest rock of the secondary series. This formation of old red sandstone appears to rest immediately on the transition rocks. The rocks in the lower part of the parish appear to belong partly to the coal, and partly to the new red sandstone formation, but the sandstone of the coal formation seems to be the predominant rock. This sandstone frequently abounds with vegetable impressions, and casts of palms and other monocotyledonous plants. These are found in abundance in a sandstone quarry at the southern boundary of the parish.

Immediately to the southward of the town, there is a bog extending a considerable distance eastward and westward, which was formerly impassable, except in one place, and seems in ancient times to have formed one of its principal defences from its southern enemies. There is now a small detached part of the town on the south side of it, named the Bridge-end, and opposite, on the north side, a small field named Barniken, probably a corruption of Barbican. The bog is now drained, and is excellent cow-pasture.

The northern part of the parish is in general a sharp gravelly dry soil; the southern part is a very rich light deep loam, and all (except some very small detached spots of clay,) of that sort which agriculturists denominate a good turnip soil. Close to the town is a dark deep sandy loam, formed from the debris of the sandstone.

On the banks of the Whitadder, mines have been repeatedly dug, and copper has been found, but not in sufficient quantity to

recompense the labour employed, and therefore the exertions in search of it have been discontinued.

Zoology.—The lake at Dunse Castle is well stocked with tench, perch, and eels; but attempts to stock it with trout have not been very successful. In the months of September and October, salmon and grilse in great numbers ascend the Whitadder to its very source, and all its tributary streams, even those that are inconsiderable,—for the purpose of depositing their spawn in the gravel. The whitling, a smaller fish, resembling them in quality and habits, is also found in considerable numbers; also a coarser fish somewhat similar, and commonly called the bull-trout. They return to the sea with the first spring floods. In May the common burn trout is in abundance: although not accounted so rich in quality, it is more delicate in flavour than the trout of the Blackadder. Though the Whitadder and Blackadder unite their streams a few miles below Dunse (after their union retaining the name of Whitadder,) the quality of the trout remains quite distinct; and salmon is seldom known to enter the Blackadder, although at their junction there is no remarkable difference in their size.

Pheasants were introduced into the woods at Dunse Castle, about twenty years ago, and abound there and in the neighbouring plantations.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

The original charter erecting Dunse into a burgh of barony was granted in the year 1489 by James IV. A charter was also granted by James VI. to Cuthbert Home in Dunse of nine acres of land, and “confirmand ane charter yrof granted to him by Sir Hugh Hudson, Chaplane of the alter of the Virgin Marye in Dunse, dated 1584.”

Eminent Men.—As far as tradition is entitled to any credit, John Duns Scotus, Doctor Subtilis, appears to have been a native of this parish. His father was a younger son of Duns of Grueldykes, a cadet of Duns of that ilk, and the house in which he is said to have been born was situated in the old town of Duns, near the gate leading to Dunse Castle. A large stone, now forming part of a park wall, has been pointed out from generation to generation as having belonged to the house in which he was born. There are different accounts as to the date of this extraordinary man's birth,—some placing it in the year 1265, and others in 1274. All agree that he early entered into a monastery of Franciscan or Gray friars, but all are not equally agreed whether at Newcastle or Dumfries; whence he

went to prosecute his studies at Merton College, in the University of Oxford, where he acquired a fellowship, and was advanced in 1301 to the University Professorship of Theology. By command of the general of his Order, he went to Paris in 1304 to defend his doctrine of the immaculate conception; which he did with great applause. He was sent on the same mission to Cologne in 1308, where he died on the 8th of November in the same year. His works are collected into twelve bulky folios, of which the most perfect edition was printed at Lyons in 1629. Long after his decease the disputes of the Scotists and Thomists continued to disturb the peace of the Christian church, and to exercise the perverted ingenuity of churchmen.

This parish has also produced men distinguished by their piety, and by their scientific, literary, and moral attainments. Among these, as elsewhere noticed, the Rev. Thomas Boston, the author of the *Fourfold State* and *Sermons*, was born at Dunse in 1676, and died at Etterick in 1732.

Abraham Robertson, LL. D., Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford, who also presided at the Board of Longitude, was born in 1751, of parents in a humble condition of life in the town of Dunse; and, after arriving by the diligent application of his talents at high distinction in mathematical science, died at Oxford in 1826, as much distinguished by his unaffected modesty and other moral qualities as by his scientific attainments.

The Rev. Thomas M'Crie, D. D., author of the life of John Knox, and other admirable historical works, was born at Dunse in 1773.

This parish was also the birth-place of the Rev. James Gray, formerly one of the Masters of the High School of Edinburgh, and afterwards admitted to holy orders in the Church of England. He was appointed to perform the duties of his office at Cutch, in the East Indies, and at the same time to direct the education of the prince of that country; but was cut off in 1830, while zealously employed in translating the Holy Scriptures into the Cutchee and Hindostanee, and composing the first grammar and dictionary which had ever been attempted of the Cutch language.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial register of baptisms has been kept since 5th February 1615. The register is now regularly kept; but was not so in former times. It consists of the following volumes :

	1, from 1615 to 1666	4, from 1725 to 1778
	2, 1666 1724	5, 1778 1810
Duplicate 3,	1666 1694	6, 1810 1832

There are five volumes of alphabetical indices to the above, from 1615 to 1832.

The record of the kirk-session commences in 1720, and is continued in two volumes to 1738; after which it is discontinued till 1797, when the present incumbent was ordained.—There are also a record of deaths or rather funerals, and a record of marriages, commencing at, and continued from, the above date, 1797.

Antiquities. Edinshall.—Till within a recent period this parish could boast, if the writer of the present article be not mistaken, of possessing perhaps the only specimen of the architecture of the first Saxon invaders of Britain, which has been preserved till modern times in the southern part of Scotland. Within these forty years, the stones of this singular monument of antiquity were used as materials for fences, and the foundations only can now be traced. We shall describe, however, the building as it appeared before its final demolition, and shall state the reasons for attributing it to the era mentioned.

The ruins referred to bear the name of Edinshall. They are situated about a mile east from Abbey St Bathans on the northern slope of Cockburn-Law, where this hill stretches into a terrace of inconsiderable size, skirted by steep banks descending to the river Whitadder, which is distant about 200 yards. The building was circular, the outside diameter being 85 feet 10 inches, and the walls 15 feet 10 inches thick.* The height of the walls, which, in their ruinous state, was seven or eight feet, must originally have been considerable, as appeared from the large quantity of materials rolled down the bank on which they stood, and lodging in the area they enclosed. In the interior of the walls were open spaces, having the appearance of separate cells, extending all round the building, differing greatly in length, but all of the width of about three feet, and presenting in some places an appearance of having been arched over. The entrance was by a low narrow door on the eastern side. No cement had been used in the building; but the stones, which were of whin, and most of them very large, were fitted with considerable accuracy to one another,—the concavity of the one

* These dimensions were ascertained when the building was extant by Mr John Blackadder, an accurate land-surveyor. In the descriptions of this ruin, contained in the first Statistical Account and in Chalmers' Caledonia, which seem both to have been copied from an article in the Scots Magazine for 1764, (Vol. xxvi. p. 431,) it is said that the building consisted of three concentric circles. This, however, is a mistake; for although two circles could be traced, in consequence of the walls having been divided by the nearly continuous cells mentioned in the text, there was no third interior wall.

receiving the convexity of the other, and the interstices being filled up with small stones. On the east and south of the principal tower, were the foundations of several oblong buildings, and of a single round one. To the south of the whole were trenches of considerable depth, surmounted on both sides by walls of stone and earth, one of which, after running in a westerly direction for fifty or sixty yards, turned northward, and followed the sweep of the hill till it reached the river.

From the description now given of the principal tower of Edinshall, (never entitled to the name of a tower from its height, but only from its circular form,) it will be perceived that this building is similar in construction to those called *burghs* in Orkney and Shetland, and *Duns* in the Highlands of Scotland, where the remains of many of them are still to be seen. * Indeed, the only difference consists in the nature of the spaces in the interior of the walls,—which in Edinshall seem composed of separate cells, while in the similar buildings they are continuous passages; but this dissimilarity is apparent only, because the upper part of the walls and the roof of the hollow spaces in Edinshall having fallen down, had partially filled up the passage, which went entirely along the interior of the wall, and had thus divided that passage into what seemed to be separate compartments. This supposition derives confirmation from the fact, that most of these cells had no entrances, and it may safely be assumed that they were not originally constructed in that form.

Now it is known that the buildings called Burghs or Duns were the workmanship of the ancient Scandinavians, and that the kind of architecture of which they are examples was common to that nation with the Saxons and other northern tribes. Hence it may be inferred, that Edinshall was built by one of those tribes; and, as it bore the name of Edwin, the most celebrated king of the Northumbrian Saxons, and as it was situated within his territories, which extended from the Humber to the Forth, we may conclude that he was the builder of Edinshall. In that case, it must have been erected between the years 617 and 633, the period of Edwin's reign.

This conclusion derives confirmation from other circumstances. In King Edwin's time, the mode of architecture of his tribe

* See description of Castle Moussa by Sir W. Scott, Waverley Novels, note, Vol. xvii. p. 335, also Pennant's Tour, Gordon's Itinerarium Septentrionale, p. 166, and Encyclopædia Britannica, *voce* Dun.—Mr Blackadder informs us, that Edinshall was precisely similar to the Highland Duns, several of which he had visited.

could not have undergone any change, because his father, Oella, was the first of his house who settled here, and because in the interim the arts of peace were not cultivated. It is recorded, too, that the art of building with mortar or cement was not introduced into Britain till after this time,—the first Saxon buildings of stone and lime having been the monastery of Weremouth, founded in 674, and the Cathedral of Hexham erected soon afterwards,—both constructed by masons and artificers brought from abroad.*

The situation of Edinshall is neither strong in itself, nor fitted to protect any part of the adjoining country. From this fact, it may be inferred that the building was designed not so much for a military station as a place of residence or a court of justice. Hence it does not bear the name of burgh, which signifies a castle, but that of hall, which means a palace or a court.

It is now generally admitted that the present metropolis of Scotland was founded by the same prince to whom we have attributed the erection of Edinshall.

On the summit of Dunse-Law are the vestiges of the entrenched camp occupied by General Leslie and 20,000 Covenanters in May 1639,—for the purpose of opposing a threatened invasion of Scotland by King Charles, who, wishing to impose Episcopacy on the Scottish nation, had advanced with a great force to Birks, seven miles beyond Berwick. Matters were, however, accommodated without bloodshed at that time, by an agreement, with which neither party seems to have been quite satisfied, or in which neither, of course, was quite sincere. There was found in Dunse Castle, between thirty and forty years ago, a copy of the Solemn League and Covenant, which was most probably sworn and signed on that occasion, and left there by some of the Scottish nobles who were parties to the accommodation, and occupied the castle, while their troops were encamped on the neighbouring hill.

In the turbulent times of 1517, during the minority of King James V. and the absence of the Regent Duke of Albany in France, a deed of atrocity was perpetrated on Sir Anthony D'Arcy, also denominated the Chevalier de la Beauté, at a morass called, from the name of the sufferer, Batties' Bog, on the line which divides the parish of Dunse from that of Edrom, on the north-east. The Chevalier, in performing the duties of Lord Warden of the marches, acting with much severity, had incurred the displeasure

* Henry's History of Britain, Vol. ii. p. 391.

of the laird of Wedderburn, who was also exasperated by the recent murder of his chief, the Earl of Home, though under the protection of an invitation by the Regent Albany to Edinburgh. The warden being worsted by the Homes, fled unattended towards Dunbar, pursued by the laird of Wedderburn. His horse being swamped in the bog, he continued his flight on foot, but was overtaken by his adversary, who cut off his head, and carried it, fastened to his saddle girth by the hair, in triumph to the Castle of Wedderburn. As the bog is on the confines of the parishes of Dunse and Edrom, and the deed was done in the parish of Edrom, while the perpetrator was a distinguished person in the parish of Dunse, the discredit of it falls in some measure on both; and it is, perhaps, incumbent on the writers of the statistics of both parishes to record the atrocious fact.

Modern Buildings.—These are,—Dunse Castle, a very splendid edifice, in the Gothic style of architecture, the greater part modern, but added to an ancient tower said to have been built by Randolph, Earl of Murray.—Wedderburn Castle, a very elegant building, in the Grecian style of architecture.—Manderston, also a fine mansion, situated in a lawn, and adorned with a lake and other embellishments.—The town-house of Dunse, a modern building, (the foundation stone of which was laid in 1816,) in the Gothic style of architecture. The present church was built in the year 1790. It is as remarkable for the plainness of its exterior as for its neatness and commodiousness within. The Saxon pillars and arches of the old church, which it replaced, indicated its antiquity. From a date on the gallery, called the Burgess-loft, it seemed to have been repaired in 1572.

The estate and patronage of the church belonged in early times to Duns of that ilk, and were granted by Robert the Bruce to Randolph, Earl of Murray. The latter granted a charter in 1316 to the monks of Newbattle, with an annuity of two merks out of the lands of Kingside. The charter was dated “apud Parcum de Duns,” in the king’s presence,—Patrick Earl of March, Sir James Douglas, and several persons of note, being also present.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish in 1755 was,	-	2593
1801,	-	3324
1811,	-	3163
1821,	-	3773
1831,	-	3469

Under the last census the number of males was 1629; of females, 1840.

The population of the town amounts to 2656; of the country, to 813. There are no villages in the parish.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	834
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	104
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	336
2. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	37*
of deaths,	-	-	-	33
of marriages,	-	-	-	19

The principal resident proprietors in the parish, are, William Hay, Esq. of Dunse Castle; the Honourable General Maitland of Manderston; William F. Home, Esq. of Wedderburn.

The proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, are, The Most Noble the Marquis of Breadalbane; Dr Alexander Monro, of Cockburn; Mrs Turnbull, of Grueldykes; John Wilson, Esq. of Cumledge; James Bell, Esq. of Ninewar; William Sanderson, Esq. of Ninewar; James Luke, Esq. of Ladywell; Douglas Ainslie, Esq. of Cairnbank; Major A. Brown, of Trinity Lodge; the Representatives of the late A. Logan, Esq. of Burnhouses.

The number of insane persons in the parish is 6; blind, 2; deaf and dumb, 2.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—This parish, which is partly in Lammermoor, contains about 12,000 acres. About 6000 acres are arable, 1000 under wood, and the remainder hill pasture. The arable land is highly cultivated, being all enclosed, limed, and drained, and generally let in leases of nineteen years.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of the southern part of the parish is nearly L. 2, 10s. per imperial acre; the remainder L. 1, 5s. The hill pasture is of very little value.

Husbandry.—Nearly the whole of the arable land is a dry sandy loam, and well adapted for the raising of turnips. It is managed partly in a four-course shift, and partly in a five, viz. first, turnips; second, barley; third, pasture; fourth, oats, or two years pasture.

Rate of Wages.—On the different farms almost all the servants are paid partly in corn and partly in money,—they having a cow maintained all the year. Servants paid in this manner appear to live better than those who are paid entirely in money.

In the parish of Dunse, in common with the parishes in its vicinity, the most improved breeds of short-horned cattle, Leicestershire

* This enumeration must not be held as quite correct, as many births, and all irregular marriages, of persons not belonging to the Established church, are not recorded.

sheep, and Hampshire pigs, have been introduced for many years,—the chief excellence of which consists in their coming to a state of full size and fatness in less than half the time required for the native breed, and so more speedily remunerating the skill and industry of the breeder. These are reared mostly for the English market, and the labouring-class of consumers at home,—while the Kylvie or Highland oxen and the black-faced or Cheviot sheep, kept to a more mature age, are chiefly fattened for the use of those who can afford a somewhat higher price at home.*

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—There is a weekly market in Dunse every Wednesday, at which little business is done. The principal market-town is Berwick, distant about fifteen miles.

Means of Communication.—There is a post twice a-day to London, and once to Edinburgh. There is also a daily coach to Edinburgh.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church, conveniently situated for the parish in general, is in good repair, and affords accommodation to about 1200 persons. The manse was built in the year 1780, and has undergone no general repair since, but is kept in good habitable condition. The extent of the glebe is between nine and ten acres, and its value about L. 35 or L. 40 a-year. The stipend was augmented in 1833 to 20 chalders,—one-half meal, one-half barley; with L. 10 for communion elements.

There are three dissenting chapels in this parish,—two of the United Associate, and one of the Relief. The stipends are paid by the congregations.

The number of families attending the Established church is 390; attending the dissenting chapels, 446. Divine service is, with as few exceptions as in most places, well attended in the Established church and in the chapels. The number of communicants in the Established church averages nearly 600.

Education.—There is one parochial school in the parish, attended at an average by 120 children. The schoolmaster, who has all the usual emoluments, is qualified to teach the English, French, Latin, and Greek languages, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, the principles of mathematics, and geography. He is diligent, and successful in communicating instruction. His salary is the maximum L. 34, 4s. 4d. The average amount of school-

* The writer regrets that he has not been able to ascertain the gross amount of raw produce yearly raised in the parish

fees for the last 3 years is L. 70 per annum; and the average of his fees as session-clerk is L. 8.

There is also a very respectable and flourishing institution, in which the above-mentioned branches of education are taught by one licentiate of the Church of Scotland, assisted by another. They at present, with much ability and success, superintend the education of twenty boarders, and of about thirty other pupils in the town and neighbourhood, to whose instruction, conduct, and comfort, every possible attention is given. Besides these, there are six schools for the education of boys and girls, who are well taught in all the ordinary branches of education. Religious instruction is communicated by reading the scriptures and catechising. There are two respectable schools for female education,—one of them a boarding-school, well entitled to every degree of encouragement, and both of them well taught in everything useful and ornamental required in the middling ranks of life, as well as in religion and morals. There are several sewing-schools for young females in an inferior condition of life. All, except the parochial school, are supported entirely by fees for instruction.

Some Sunday schools are taught by persons of the labouring classes under the superintendence of their ministers. It is said that those for whose benefit they are chiefly intended, the children of negligent parents, seldom attend, there being no compulsory power to enforce attendance.

The people are generally alive to the benefits of education. The heritors pay the school fees for those parents, the poverty of whose circumstances has been ascertained.

Savings Bank.—There has been a Savings Bank for Dunse and the contiguous parishes existing for a good many years, but in a very languishing state.

Literature.—A subscription library was commenced in 1768. There are also two circulating libraries, and a reading-room for newspapers.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of poor on the roll is 130: they receive from 1s. to 3s. per week. The legal assessment for the poor amounts to L. 710 yearly, and is their sole supply, except a small sum from the collections, which are much reduced by the heavy assessments. Collections, mortcloth, and marriage-fees may amount to L. 18 or L. 19. L. 100 was bequeathed to the poor by General James Dickson of the Honourable East India Company's service, the interest of which is divided yearly

among those who have a claim. It is a very remarkable circumstance, that during the year ending in December 1830, only one person died who had a claim on the fund, and that, from May 1830 to July 1831, no pauper died, though their ages averaged sixty-one years.

Dr Abraham Robertson, LL.D., mentioned among the distinguished natives of this town, whose moral worth was equal to his scientific attainments, settled annuities of L. 10 on five poor female cousins in the humble rank of life from which he sprung, and whose infirmities, arising from old age, reduced them to the necessity of receiving supply from the poor's fund; for which annuities he paid L. 450.

In the year 1826, Alexander Christie, Esq. of Grueldykes, a native of, and a liberal benefactor to, the town of Dunse, bequeathed to the poor on the roll of the parish of Dunse, a sum equal to the sum to which they should be entitled from the roll for two years after his decease. His intention evidently was to prevent the interference of the heritors of the parish with his bequest,—the disposal of which, however, would be attended with this evident consequence, that, if the poor should receive double aliment for two years, they would feel their privations, and be consequently more discontented after it was withdrawn, than if they had never received that benefit. Some of the heritors suggested the plan of reducing the aliment on the roll to one-half during these two years, and taking the other half from the legacy. But Mr Christie's heirs declared their determination to reject that proposal, though it would have saved them one-half of the legacy, because they thought that such a plan would evade the intention of the testator. Another mode, however, was contrived and carried into effect,—by which the whole poor on the roll having claims, on condition of receiving a certain sum in hand, disposed to George Peat, Esq. Sheriff-substitute, and James Bell, Esq. Sheriff-clerk of Berwickshire, William Cunningham, Esq. bailie of Dunse, the Rev. George Cunningham, minister, and James Watson, Esq. writer, the whole remaining sum, to which, when accumulated, they might have claim,—that sum amounting to above L. 700: and the interest was to be divided annually among the survivors at the beginning of each successive year: no one to receive more than L. 10 per annum. As, however, no provision is made for the disposal of the above L. 700, when those having claims may have died out; and as it is not stated whether the trustees act in their official or their individual capa-

city, nor whether they can appoint successors,—this plan does not obviate, but only postpones, the difficulty respecting the ultimate disposal of the fund.

The late Charles Marjoribanks, Esq. M. P. for Berwickshire, bequeathed first L. 10 and afterwards L. 100 to the poor of Dunse, to be at the disposal of the minister. By far the greater part of this is already distributed, and the rest is in the course of distribution.

Two Friendly Societies were instituted in 1780, and one in 1790. They still exist, though not founded on the most approved principles of calculation. The Berwickshire Farmers' Widows' Fund, from that cause, has almost sunk under its own weight.

Fairs.—There are three fairs annually held in Dunse,—one in June, another in August, and another in November, for cattle and horses; and four quarterly markets for sheep, held in March, May, July, and September.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The most remarkable variation between the present state of the parish and neighbourhood, and that which existed at the time of the last Statistical Account, is in the rent of land. Land which then let at 15s. and 7s. per acre, now lets at L. 2, 10s. and L. 1, 5s. per acre. Every improvement in the system of husbandry is speedily adopted.

August 1834.

PARISH OF FOULDEN.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. ALEXANDER CHRISTISON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THERE is a tradition that the parish of Foulden, or Fulden, received its name from some foul transaction, of which it was the scene during the border feuds. This origin of the name, however, does not satisfy etymologists, of whom some hold that it refers to the former marshiness, and others, to the fertility of the parish.

Extent, Boundaries.—It is 2 miles and 2 furlongs in length, and 2 miles and $1\frac{1}{2}$ furlongs in breadth, and is of a compact form. The northern conterminous parish is Ayton; the western, Chirnside; the southern, Hutton; and the eastern, Mordington. The southern extremity is traced by the river Whitadder; which is here remarkable for the depth of its bed, insomuch that its banks are from 120 to 150 feet in height. The hither bank is often interrupted by deep and wild ravines, some of which wind fully a mile northward. Traversing the parish from south to north, one meets first with a strong clay, then with a sandy loam, and lastly with cultivated moor.

Climate.—As Foulden is highly cultivated in an agricultural point of view, as plantations and a chain of heights shelter it from every inclement blast, and as it slopes gently and continuously from its northern to its southern extremity, its people ought to be very healthy. Yet the former Statistical Account, founding, no doubt, on inadequate data, gives a very exaggerated representation of the salubrity of the parish. During my connection with it, malignant small-pox, scarlet fever, and influenza have prevailed in it. In the year 1827, eleven of its inhabitants died; and the average yearly mortality since has been five.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—Four-fifths of the land is the property of John Wilkie, Esq. of Foulden: the rest belongs to Geo. Baillie, Esq.

of Jerviswoode, and to Miss Wood of Nunlands. Nunlands is the least estate, but far above L. 50 in yearly value.

Historical Notices.—On the 24th March 1587, a conference was held in Foulden church between commissioners sent by Elizabeth of England to Scotland, and others appointed by our James VI. At this meeting were discussed the circumstances which, according to Elizabeth, vindicated her treatment of Mary, and, in particular, her execution.

Antiquities.—The only antiquity in Foulden which merits notice is an epitaph in the church-yard, dated 4th January 1592. The person whom it commemorates must have been of some distinction; for traditionary accounts of his forays are still extant. The epitaph is highly interesting as an excellent example of the quaintness of thought and style, so universal at the time at which it was written.

	HEIR . LIETH . ANE . HONORABIL . MAN . GEORG .	
AND OF HIS AGE . 74 .	FIFE . FOSTRING . PEACE . ME . BRED .	RAMSAY . IN FULDEN .
	FROM . THENCE . THE . MERCE . ME . CALD .	
	THE . MERCE . TO . MARSIS . LAVIS . LED .	
	TO . BYDE . HIS . BATTELIS . BALD .	
	VERIED . VITH . VARES . AND . SORE . OPPREST	
	DEATH . GAVE . TO . MARS . THE . FOYL	
	AND . NOV . I . HAVE . MORE . QVYET . REST .	
	THAN . IN . MY . NATIVE . SOYL [FOVR	
	FIFE . MERCE . MARS . MORT . THESE . FATAL	
	AL . HAIL . MY . DAYS . HES . DRIVEN . OVR .	
	2691 NVI . 4 . DELVED . OHA . TELSVB	

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers have suffered mutilation, and had been long kept in a very slovenly manner. The earliest entry is dated 13th April 1682.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population was 465; in 1793, it was 344; and, according to a census taken by me in July last, it was 395. Of the present population, 196 are males, and 199 are females: 73 reside in Foulden village,—the only village in the parish; and 322 in the country: 4 are bachelors or widowers above fifty years of age; and 8 are single women upwards of 45: 1, a very old woman, is blind; and 1 is fatuous.

The yearly average of births for the last seven years is 9; of deaths, 5; and of marriages, 3.

The number of families in the parish is	-	-	-	-	78
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	55
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	12

Customs, Character, &c. of the People.—Games, from being very common in the remembrance of inhabitants of middle age, have

fallen into total disuse. One of these obsolete games I may particularize, on account of the singularity of the goals. It was celebrated, along with many others, on Fastern's eve. The villagers were opposed to the inhabitants of the country; a large ball was tossed into the air midway between the parish church and mill; and this the former strove to lodge in the church *pulpit*, and the latter in the mill-hopper. An ancient and odd, but local usage, called *creeling*, is still kept up here. On an early evening after a newly-married couple have commenced house-keeping, the young men of the parish repair to their house; invite the bridegroom out, or, if he refuses, take the first opportunity of laying hold on him, and place a creel laden with stones on his back, with which he has to pace up and down, till the bride comes forth, and, cutting the cords, disencumbers him. By this ceremony are shadowed forth the cares which a man incurs by marrying, but of which it is in the power of a dutiful wife to lighten him. A gratuity, however, is given by all who can pay it, rather than be creeled. I presume that the actual load of matrimony is considered quite enough to be borne without the addition of this symbolical one.

At the morning and evening meals of the peasantry, their staple is oatmeal porridge and milk; their dinner consists of bread made from pease and barley, and of potatoes, seasoned with fat pork. Each family feeds at least two pigs a-year. Tea is getting more and more into use, and especially among the female heads of families; a change which, from its cost, and for other obvious reasons, is much to be regretted. The peasantry here,—as throughout the county,—are religious and moral; and, in particular, there is scarcely an instance of habitual intemperance.

Irregularity of marriage, from the facility and secrecy with which it can be contracted on the border, is very common. This has both its advantages and its evils; an illegitimate birth, on the one hand, very seldom happening; but, on the other hand, improvident and ill-assorted matches being often made.

Though favourably circumstanced in respect of the comforts and advantages of society, and not discontented with their condition, yet emigration is remarkably prevalent. There is a general misapprehension, respecting the description of emigrants from among our rural population. From this parish, at least, they, for the most part, have been the robust, the enterprising, and the provident; they have been eminently successful; and the accounts sent home by them of their prosperity have extended the emigratory spirit.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

The number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish is 2976. 330 acres have never been under the plough, and are in pasture; the rest are arable, with the exception of 260, which are planted. Part of the wood in the vicinity of Foulden House is very old; but the great bulk of it is of recent origin. The trees planted are oak, ash, elm, birch, sycamore, chesnut, spruce and Scotch fir.

Rent of Land.—The highest rent of arable land per acre is L. 4, and the lowest is L. 1, 7s.

Twelve years is the general duration of leases.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of a single farm-servant, living in his master's house, are L. 5 for the summer, and L. 4 for the winter; those of a female are L. 5 for the one, and L. 2, 2s. for the other. The wages of a hind for the year are L. 4 in money, 10 bolls oats, 3 bolls barley, 1 boll pease or beans, 1600 yards of potatoes, a cow's food, and the cartage of his coals. His gains this year are valued at L. 21, 2s. He pays rent for his cottage, and this he does by providing one shearer. He is required to keep a bondager. The wages of a day-labourer are 9s. per week.

Produce.—

The average gross amount of wheat is 1416 bolls.

barley, 1865 do.

oats, 3633 do.

beans, 451 do.

The value of the wheat, according to the fiars of last spring, is	L. 2360	0	0
barley, - - - - -	1748	8	0
oats, - - - - -	2452	0	0
beans, - - - - -	406	0	0
potatoes and turnips, - - - - -	1278	0	0
grass, - - - - -	2198	0	0
annual thinning and periodical felling of the woods,	175	0	0

The total yearly value of raw produce raised is - L. 10517 8 0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

The nearest market-town is Berwick, which is five miles distant; it is also the nearest post-town.

Means of Communication.—The want of a bridge across the Whitadder (the nearest being five miles distant,) and of a more gradual access to the river, has been long and much felt. This, however, is soon to be remedied. The plan of a bridge, and of a very preferable line of road to it, have been procured from Mr Jardine, civil-engineer; and towards defraying the cost, which is estimated at L. 2500, there have been subscribed from the bridge money of the county L. 500, and by the gentry L. 1500.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church was built in 1786. It

is placed in the heart of the parish, is in excellent repair, and the interior might be seated so as to accommodate the whole population. The manse was built in 1772; an addition was made to it in 1813. The site of the church and manse is peculiarly beautiful; sheltered to the east and north by the stately and ancient trees within the pleasure grounds of Foulden House; while the view to the south and west is rich and varied, and only bounded by the Cheviots and Eildons. The glebe is 8 acres in extent, and is let for L. 24 annually. The stipend is L. 59, 9s. 3d. 38 b. 2 f. 2 p. 2½ l. barley, and 77 b. 1 f. 1 p. 1½ l. oats. Those in connection with the Established church are 284, and the communicants at the last dispensation of the sacrament were 160. There are 106 Seceders, and 3 Catholics.

Education.—The parochial school is the only one in the parish. The teacher has the legal accommodations, and the highest salary. The quarterly school fees are 7s. 6d. for Latin, Greek, and mathematics; 5s. for arithmetic; 4s. for reading and writing; and 3s. for reading alone. The yearly amount of fees actually paid is L. 10; and of other emoluments, L. 10. Education is universal, and duly appreciated.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There are 12 paupers, and their average monthly allowance is 8s. 2d. This is entirely defrayed by assessment; the church collections, with the exception of the sacramental ones, going to pay the precentor, beadle, and session-clerk. Repugnance to apply for parochial relief is very little felt,—the inevitable consequence of compulsory assessments; which, nevertheless, under due regulations, is the best, and the only equitable mode of supporting the necessitous.

Inns, &c.—There are no inns, alehouses, &c. in the parish. Formerly two fairs were held at the village, and were much resorted to; but now one only is held, and that, too, but nominally. The principal fuel is coal; which is procured at Berwick, and costs 6d. per boll. A cart load, such as one horse can draw, is delivered for 6s. 7½d.

Upon the whole, the parish of Foulden has fully kept pace in improvement and embellishment with the rest of Berwickshire, since the last Statistical Account of it was written.

October 1834.

PARISH OF EDROM.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. ALEX. CUTHBERTSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE ancient name of this parish was Aderham. It is still called Etherham by the commonalty. *Ader* comes from the Cambro-British word *Awedur*, signifying running water, and *ham* in Anglo-Saxon, signifies a village. Aderham is thus the village, on the banks of the *Ader*.

Extent, Boundaries.—The extreme length of the parish is $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles; extreme breadth, 4 miles; mean length, $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles; mean breadth, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles; extent in square miles, $13\frac{1}{8}$. * It is bounded on the west by the parishes of Dunse, Langton, and Polwarth; on the south by Fogo, Swinton, and Whitsome; on the east by Hutton and Chirnside; and on the north by Buncle. The country is generally flat.

The climate in this part of the country is now very good. Ague, which about forty years ago, before the practice of draining became general, was very prevalent, is now never heard of.

Hydrography.—There is a mineral well in this parish called the Dunse Spa. It is situated in a valley which lies nearly a mile on the south side of Dunse, on the estate of Nisbet. This well was discovered accidentally in 1747. It was a place of very general resort for a considerable time; but has long ceased to be so. A very full account of the composition and virtues of this water has been given by Dr Francis Home, in a treatise published in Edinburgh, 1751. The well, however, is now entirely out of repute. There is likewise a mineral well on the estate of Blackadder, in a ravine near the banks of the Blackadder, and not far from the bridge on the eastern approach to Blackadder House from Allanton,—

* I am indebted for this measurement, and for various other particulars relative to the Blackadder and Whitadder, and the extent of arable land in the parish, woods, &c. to Mr John Blackadder, land-surveyor, Blanerne, East Side.

which some of the old residents in Allanton resorted to in their younger days, and found beneficial in many instances. They call it the "Vertur" Well, meaning, probably, the well whose water has a medicinal virtue.

The Whitadder bounds the parish on the north side, and runs the whole extent of the parish from west to east. The altitude of its source above the medium sea level is supposed to be 1150 feet; fall per mile, 32 feet, 10 inches; breadth, 35 yards. Length of Whitadder in Edrom parish, $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles; greatest height of Whitadder in flood 9 feet above the ordinary level; average fall of Whitadder through Edrom parish, 23 feet per mile. From Broomhouse, the upper part of the parish, to the lower extremity of the parish, the fall of the Whitadder is 149 feet. It runs into the Tweed about two miles from Berwick.

The length of the Blackadder water is 19 miles; supposed altitude at its source 1130 feet above the medium sea level; length within the parish of Edrom $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles, flowing in a north-east direction, dividing the parish into two equal parts nearly; breadth, 17 yards. The Blackadder falls into the Whitadder at the village of Allanton, in this parish.

Geology and Mineralogy.—There is a shell-marl bog on the estate of Kimmerghame. The bog is of considerable extent: greatest depth 15 feet. Machinery has been lately erected for draining off the water, and a very considerable quantity of marl has been taken from it; price 1s. per cart load. A cubic yard of this marl is equal to a boll of lime. It does not operate so readily as lime, but it is more durable in its influence. In working the marl, several beavers' heads (one nearly entire) were found, and some deers' horns. One head was nearly complete, and was sent to Dr Barclay in Edinburgh.

The rocks of this parish belong to a formation, the characters of which have not yet been precisely determined. It has not been ascertained whether they are members of the new red sandstone group, or are the lowermost beds of the Durham coal field. Various facts may be adduced in support of these two theories, but it seems probable that they are of older date than the strata of the Durham coal field, and are a fresh water deposit.

The rocks consist chiefly of clay, marl, and sandstone; the first of these composing, perhaps, about two-thirds of the whole. The marl strata are in thin beds, never exceeding two or three feet in thickness. The sandstones are generally of a whitish colour, and sometimes ex-

ceed twenty or thirty feet in thickness, as at Puttenmill, Kimmerghame, Greenknows. All the strata dip to the south-east, at a small angle of inclination, except at the west end of the parish, where they have been upraised by a trap dike. A good section of these rocks, as affected by this cause, may be seen at the junction with the Whittadder, of the small burn which runs past Cumledge, about a mile below Preston bridge. The strata are there elevated at an angle of about 50° . The basis or lowermost beds of the Berwickshire marl strata may be seen at the turn of the Whitadder, above the point last described. Beyond this point, the strata consist entirely of red sandstones resting on a conglomerate, which some geologists have described as belonging to the old red sandstone group.

The only fossils discovered among the rocks of this parish, and contemporaneous with their formation, are vegetables. The remains of neither shells nor animals have yet been found. The vegetable fossils are very much the same as found in the Mid-Lothian and Northumberland coal fields, consisting of impressions of *Equisetæ*, &c. But besides these, an extensive deposit of fossil or petrified trees has lately been discovered, which, upon a botanical examination of their structure, seem to belong to the *Coniferæ*. The water-worn appearance of the trunks, and the total absence of branches and leaves, lead to the opinion that they have been transported to their present situation by the force of running water. It is no small confirmation of this opinion, that these fossils are found imbedded in a thick deposit of blue clay, which was most probably thrown down by water in a state of mud. The bark which envelopes these ancient trees has been converted into a black coal, probably from the original bark having been deprived of its bituminous matter.

There are in this district, the strongest proofs of the effects of the deluge, that vast flood by which our mountains were submerged, and the plains strewed with the records of its violence. Immense boulders or erratic blocks may be seen in the alluvial soil that is cut through by the river courses, which cannot have been derived except from hills at a great distance. Among these boulders, there are some of mica-slate, a rock which does not occur nearer than Cumberland, from the mountains of which these rolled masses were probably torn and transported. The direction in which, as thus indicated, the waters of the deluge flowed, viz. from south-

west to north-east, the reader will perceive, agrees entirely with the proofs otherwise and elsewhere derived as to the violence, extent, and direction of the diluvial flood. Several specimens of these mica-slate boulders have been found at Blanerne east side.

Notwithstanding the abundance of marl and clay in this parish, we are not aware that gypsum has been found in it, as in other parishes where the same formation occurs.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—The grave of Sir Anthony Darcy, surnamed Le Sieur de la Beauté, is in a field on the estate of Broomhouse, in this parish,—called De la Beauté's field. Sir Anthony Darcy, commonly named Anthony de la Bastie, (properly De la Beauté) was a Frenchman, and was appointed by the Duke of Albany Warden of the Marches, and captain of Dunbar Castle, in the room of Lord Home,—when the Duke, who was regent in the minority of James V., went to France, June 1517. Lord Home had been treacherously decoyed to Edinburgh, and put to death, together with his brother William, as was supposed, by the instigation of Darcy. This rendered Darcy odious in the Merse. A dispute having arisen between him and David Home, the laird of Wedderburn, Darcy and his party were attacked by the laird of Wedderburn and his associates near Langton, October 12, 1517, and put to flight. Darcy's horse stuck fast in a bog in the end of Dunse Moor,—which obliged him to fly on foot. He was overtaken by Wedderburn at Broomhouse, who slew him, and carrying his head in triumph through Dunse, fixed it on the battlements of Home Castle.* A cairn marks out the grave of Darcy.

One of the largest meetings of the Covenanters took place at East Nisbet, in this parish, (subsequently called Allanbank, and now called Bighouse,) in 1674. They were convened for the purpose of celebrating the Lord's Supper. They assembled on the banks of the Whitadder, about one mile south of Chirnside, where 3200 communicated. The Rev. Mr Blackadder, Mr Welsh, Mr Riddel, Mr Rae, and Mr Dickson officiated. The Earl of Home threatened an attack upon them, but the meeting passed off without molestation.

Parochial Registers.—The early registers of this parish have

* A particular account of all the circumstances which led to the death of Darcy is given in an old manuscript in the possession of the present proprietor of Wedderburn, a copy of which is in the possession of Colonel Home of Broomhouse.

been lost. The only account which I have heard of them is, that they were accidentally burned a long time ago. The register of baptisms commences in 1720; register of marriages, in 1783. In the register of burials, there are only a few entries. In all of the registers, there are mutilations till 1801,—from which period the register of births and baptisms has been regularly kept. This register, however, is far from being complete in regard to births.

Land-owners.—There are nine landed proprietors. George Logan, Esq. of Edrom; John Carnegie, Esq. of New Edrom; Colonel Home of Broomhouse; George Buchan, Esq. of Kelloe; Alexander Dudgeon, Esq. of St Helens; Miss Boswall of Blackadder; James Bonar, Esq. of Kimmerghame; Lord Sinclair of Nisbet; Major Mackay of Bighouse, formerly called East Nisbet, and afterwards Allanbank.

The valued rents of these estates are as follows:—

	Scots.
Kimmerghame, - - - -	L. 2224 14 9 ⁶
Blackadder, - - - -	2093 4 6 ⁶
Nisbet, - - - -	1824 9 7
Allanbank or Bighouse, - -	1802 6 11
Kelloe, - - - -	1096 7 1
Edrom, - - - -	486 3 11 ⁶
Broomhouse, - - - -	266 2 11
New Edrom, - - - -	234 2 9 ⁶
Reedyloch, - - - -	100 15 7 ⁶

A considerable number of houses at Allanton, with gardens attached, are feus granted by the proprietor of Allanbank a considerable time ago. In ancient times, there were castles at Nisbet, Blackadder, and Broomhouse. Upon the property of Kelloe there is a square of cottages called Kelloe Bastle,—which was the site of the *bastell*, or keep, in ancient times. There were several buildings of this kind in this district. ●

Mansion Houses.—The mansion house on the estate of Broomhouse was built by the present proprietor, Colonel Home, in 1813, on the site of the ancient castle. Several skeletons were found in digging the foundation: and a stone coffin, with an entire skeleton, was discovered several years ago, in a field adjoining to that which contains the grave of Sir Anthony de la Beauté.—The mansion house of Nisbet is a fine old building, likewise in the castellated form.—Kimmerghame House is old, but its situation on the banks of the Blackadder is beautiful. On these banks are also situated the mansions of Kelloe, and Bighouse, and Blackadder House. At Blackadder House there is a conservatory in the form of a Gothic

chapel, the frame work of which is entirely of cast iron. Part of the glass is beautifully stained. It was erected by Thomas Boswall, Esq., the late proprietor, and cost several thousand pounds. The situation of Edrom House and the parish church is very beautiful. The lands all around are in a state of high cultivation, enriched with plantations and hedge-rows; and, in the distance, there are the upland scenery of Dunse Law, Cockburn Law, and the sweep of the Lammermoor Hills, and the Cheviots.

Mills.—There are four corn-mills in the parish on the Blackadder Water,—Bighouse mill, Blackadder, Nisbet, and Kimmerghame. At Kimmerghame and Bighouse mill, there is conjoined to the corn-mill a saw-mill, where a good deal of wood is cut for rural purposes.

Paper-Mills.—There are two paper-mills on the Whitadder. That of Broomhouse is on a very extensive scale. The number of hands employed is 56, male and female; and the hours of work are ten per day. Printing-paper is chiefly manufactured. The people are healthy, sober, and every way decent in their conduct. At Allanbank paper-mill, binding boards are manufactured: and the number of hands employed is 25 for eight hours a-day. Men's wages are 14s. per week: women's, 10d. per day. The people here are equally correct in their conduct as those at the other paper-mill. —A lint-mill and a wheel-wright-mill are mentioned in the former Statistical Account; but these have been discontinued for a good many years.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish, by former Statistical Account, was, in 1793, about 1000									
Catechisable persons,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	800
In 1755, total amount of population,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	898
In 1791,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1338
In 1801,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1355
In 1811,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1356
In 1821,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1516
In 1831, village of Allanton,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	258
country part,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1177
Total,									1485

Several families emigrated this spring to Upper Canada; some from the village of Allanton, and some from the country part of the parish.

There are two insane persons maintained by the parish at a weekly allowance.

Habits of the People.—The people generally live in a very comfortable manner. They are honest, contented, sober-minded, and

well-affected to both church and state. There are not many instances of poaching in game and salmon. About forty or fifty years ago there was a good deal of smuggling in this district, of brandy, gin, teas, &c.; but now this is entirely unknown.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—

The number of Imperial acres in the parish, arable,	-	-	7579
Under wood,	-	-	580
In roads,	-	-	99
farm-buildings and gentlemen's seats,	-	-	60
water, Blackadder and Whitadder,	-	-	82
		—	821

Total imperial acres in the parish,	-	-	8400
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By Mr John Blackadder's survey, there are.

$\frac{2}{3}$ under crop,	-	-	3031 $\frac{5}{6}$
$\frac{2}{3}$ under grass,	-	-	3031 $\frac{6}{6}$
$\frac{1}{3}$ under fallow and turnip,	-	-	1515 $\frac{8}{6}$
		—	
		Acres,	7579

A considerable quantity of fir and hard-wood is cut yearly on some of the estates in the parish. On one estate the wood cut and sold for a considerable number of years past, has brought L. 300 per annum.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of land per acre is about L. 1, 5s.; the minimum price from 13s. to 15s. per acre; the best land L. 2 per acre; some very good land, L. 2, 10s. and upwards. The farms are in general large in this parish, and vary in rental from L. 400 to L. 1000. The rental of the parish at the time of the former Statistical Account was L. 6493; at present, it is about L. 15,200. The average rent for grazing a cow or an ox is about L. 4.

Husbandry.—The general length of leases is nineteen years; and the general routine of cropping is a four or five years' course. The five-course system is now more generally followed. The four-course is too severe for most kinds of lands.

The whole land in the parish is in a state of good cultivation, enclosed, and pretty well-drained; and the practice of draining is kept up. A great many improvements have lately been made on the estate of Kimmerghame, as to farm-buildings, young plantations, &c.; and on the other estates, a similar spirit of improvement and attention to the comfort of the agricultural population have been evinced.

The farm buildings are in general good, the enclosures well kept, and the woods and plantations carefully managed.

Sheep and cattle of various breeds are fed in the parish, besides those bred in it, viz. a cross between the Leicester ram and Cheviot ewe, and the north country kyloes. The practice of feeding cattle is more prevalent in this parish than that of breeding them.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of men-servants for farm purposes, are, from L. 3 to L. 5 per half-year, with board. Women's wages, with board, from L. 4 to L. 5 in the summer, and L. 2 in the winter. Boy's wages per half year, from L. 2 to L. 3. A labourer's wages, winter and summer, are 9s. per week; at some seasons, and for particular work, 10s. per week. Mason's wages 3s. per day; carpenter's 2s. 6d. without victuals. Smiths are in general paid from L. 1, 15s. to L. 3 per annum, for a pair of horses kept in shoes, and plough and harrows kept in repair.

It may be proper to contrast these rates with those that prevailed at the time of the last Statistical Account. A labourer's wages were then from 10d. to 1s. per day; mason's and carpenter's 1s. 6d.; tailor's 6d. and victuals. Male servants employed in husbandry, 50s. or L. 3 per half year, with their board; female servants from 30s. to L. 2.

Prices of Provisions.—The price of butcher meat is now, and for a considerable time past has been, from 5d. to 7d. per lb. Butter from 7d. to 8d. Cheese according to its quality, from 4d. to 6d. and 7d. In this part of the country very little butter and cheese are made. No more milch cows are kept than what are necessary for the use of the families themselves. It is more profitable, from the mode of agriculture pursued here, to buy stock than to rear it.

There are 206 work-horses in the parish; 35 riding horses and coach horses; 25 brood mares. For these statute-labour money is paid, at the rate of 7s. 6d. for each horse, and 3s. 9d. for each brood mare. Farm-servants for whom road-money is paid, are 128 in number, the payment for each being 3s.; householders who pay road-money, are 42 in number, each paying 3s. The amount raised from this source, and applied to the keeping of the parish roads in repair, is L. 120 per annum.

It may be noticed, that the best kind of plough made in Scotland was invented by James Small, who resided in this parish.

Produce.—The total value of the raw produce raised in the parish is, as near as I have been able to estimate it, about L. 32,500 Sterling per annum.

Quarries.—There are four good freestone quarries in the parish, one of which is a sale quarry.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Dunse is the nearest market-town,—distant from this parish about three and a-half miles. Allanton is the only village in the parish,—about three miles from Edrom.

Means of Communication.—We have a regular conveyance for letters and newspapers by Dunse and Ayton. The length of the public roads in the parish, including turnpikes and parish roads, is twenty-five miles. A public coach runs between Dunse and Berwick in the summer season thrice a-week, and sometimes every lawful day. Carriers from Dunse to Berwick pass Edrom every day in the week: there is a daily coach from Dunse to Edinburgh, besides regular carriers. There is one bridge over the Whitadder, called Chirnside Bridge; and another over the Whitadder at Allanton is very much needed. There are also two bridges over the Blackadder in this parish,—one, called the Mouth Bridge, on the road from Dunse to the south Berwick road; the other at Kimmerghame. Farther, there are two wooden bridges over the Blackadder for foot-passengers.

Corn-Markets.—There is a weekly corn-market in Dunse every Wednesday. The sales are by sample; but the principal corn market is Berwick, which is held every Saturday. The corn is shipped to London, sometimes to Edinburgh. Some farmers drive their grain to Dunbar and Dalkeith, and frequently lime is brought back by the returning carts. Sheep and cattle are mostly driven south to Morpeth; but some to the Dalkeith and Edinburgh markets. There are fairs, besides, in the neighbourhood for the sale of cattle, and there is a monthly market at Coldstream.

*Ecclesiastical State.**—“The present church of Edrom was built in 1732, and has since been repaired. It is a long building, a gallery at each end and a gallery in front of the pulpit, and another gallery immediately behind the pulpit. The gallery in front is over the burying vault of the Kelloe family, the gallery behind

* “The lands and church of Ederham with Nisbet were granted to St Cuthbert's monks by Gospatrick Earl of Dunbar, and confirmed in 1139 by David I. In 1150 the donation of Gospatrick was confirmed by Robert Bishop of St Andrew's, in the presence of the Synod at Berwick town, and it was also confirmed by Bishop Richard, who ruled the see of St Andrew's from 1163 to 1177. Richard also granted in favour of the prior of Coldingham the investiture of the church of Ederham. In the ancient *taxatio* the church of Ederham was rated at no less than 100 marks. Ederham was, of course, a vicarage till the Reformation, and William de Chatton, vicaire de l'église de Ederham, swore fealty to Edward I. 24th August 1296, at Berwicktown.”—Chalmers' Caledonia, Vol. ii. p. 357.

the pulpit is over the Blackader burying vault. Robert Blackader, first Archbishop of Glasgow, whose family derived its surname from Blackader in Ederham parish, built a vaulted isle to the ancient church."—Redpath's Border History, p. 473.

Part of this ancient vault is still standing. On the south-west corner of the Blackadder aisle, over which is the gallery already mentioned, there is a stone with this inscription : " Founded by Robert Blackader, Archbishop of Glasgow, in the year 1499." On the south-east corner of the same aisle, there is a stone with this inscription : " Repaired by S. John Home of Blackader, in the year 1696." These two corners are evidently much older than the rest of the aisle, which probably was built and connected with the church in the manner already mentioned, when the church was built in 1732, or subsequently.

" During the minority of James V., the most murderous contests for the lands of Blackader continued between the Blackaders of Blackader, and the Homes, which finally ended in the favour of the Homes, by violence against right."—Chalmers' Caledonia.

The church may accommodate about 450 persons. A range of stables has been built on the north side of the church-yard, for the accommodation of the horses of heritors and tenants during the time of divine service. It is remarkable that in this church-yard, as in almost all the churchyards of the neighbourhood, all the interments are on the south side of the church; and none on the north side. There seems to have been a prejudice of old against burying on the north side of a church.

The old manse and glebe were situated near the church, and still more near to the mansion-house of Edrom. But the proprietor of Edrom, Mr Breimer, being desirous to have them removed to a farther distance from his house, effected an excambion in 1760. The present manse was then built, and the repairs since that time have been trifling. The present glebe is about the same extent as the old,—namely, ten acres. The exchange was satisfactory to Mr William Redpath, who was then the minister of the parish, and it was gone about, so far as I have been able to learn, in the usual way; but there must have been a mistake; for the old glebe is of as good land as any in the parish or county, and one acre of it is worth three acres of the present. The present glebe was at the time of the exchange a moor covered with heath, with a swamp at the lower end; and though it has since

been much improved, a different equivalent ought to have been obtained.

The stipend is 16 chalders, half oatmeal and half barley, payable according to the fiars prices of the county. In 1755, the stipend was £. 76, 14s. 5d.: in 1798, £. 120, 11s. 6d.; at the time of the former Statistical Account £. 110 Sterling, including the value which was put on the glebe.

There are no chapels of ease in this parish; and there is no need of any,—though the church is very inconveniently placed for the parish, and by no means in a central situation. Divine service at the parish church is generally well attended. The proprietors are mostly resident, and we have a most respectable tenantry. The average number of communicants is about 350. Of the proportion of the parishioners belonging to the Established church and to the Dissenters, no precise account can be given, because a considerable number of the latter belong to the shifting class of farm-servants. I would conjecture, however, that the number of Dissenting heads of families may be about 55.*

The heritors and their families are almost all annual subscribers to Societies for religious and charitable purposes; and generally in the summer season we have a collection in the church for some religious or charitable object. Our collection last year for the Highland Schools under the management of the General Assembly was £. 14, 18s. Sterling.

Education.—There are three schools in the parish,—the parochial and two private schools. The parochial schoolmaster has the maximum salary, a very good house, and an allowance in lieu of garden. His school-fees probably do not exceed £. 5 a-year.

One of the private schools is at Allanton. The Blackadder family give a school-house and a dwelling-house for the teacher, and a salary of £. 10 per annum. The other private school is at Kimmerghame. The proprietor of Kimmerghame gives a school and a dwelling-house and garden for the master, and a salary of £. 10 per annum. The parish school has on an average about 45 scholars; the

* There was, till within these few years, when it was ploughed up, an old burying-ground on the estate of Kimmerghame, where there is also a field, called the Chapel-field. There was likewise a chapel on the estate of East Nisbet, subsequently called Allanbank, now Bighouse, near the spot where the large meeting of Covenanters formerly mentioned was held. Some of the foundation stones have been lately ploughed up, but I have not been able to get any more authentic particulars about it. There are likewise on the same estate the remains of a camp: but the field has been so long under the plough that the form is not very perceptible.

private schools about 70 each. * The same branches are taught in all the schools—Latin, Greek when required, mathematics, and French; together with the ordinary branches of education, English reading and English grammar, writing, arithmetic, and geography.

The school fees are nearly the same in all. The wages for scholars under seven years of age is 10s. per annum, or 2s. 6d. per quarter; under ten years, 12s. per annum; above ten years, 16s. per annum, or 4s. per quarter. The wages advance after this according to the number of branches taught.

There are none in this parish who are not sent to school; and, from the situation of the parochial and private schools, no part of the parish is at so great a distance from school as to make it any hardship for the children to attend regularly in summer and winter.

Libraries.—There are two or three small libraries in the parish for young people.

Charitable and other Institutions.—Some of the parishioners are connected with Friendly Societies in Dunse and elsewhere; but this mode of obtaining assistance, in case of sickness and old age, is not so much attended to as it ought.

Savings Bank.—There is a savings bank in Dunse for this and the neighbouring parishes. The deposits a few years ago were considerable, but they have fallen off to a few pounds a year. One reason for this falling off may be the reduced rate of interest. Five per cent. was the rate of interest given, till within these two or three years, when it was reduced to two and a-half per cent. Another reason may be the fall in the prices of labour.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 30,—at the time of the former Statistical Account, it was 12. The allowance to each at an average, is 2s. per week. The assessment is about L. 150 per annum: at the time of the former Statistical Account, it was L. 10. The collections at the church, and from the letting of a hearse and the use of a mortcloth, have amounted, for a great many years past, to L. 25 or L. 30 per annum. The collection at the church door has of late, however, considerably fallen off, in consequence of the assessment. The sum of L. 5 a-year is paid to the kirk-session for the behoof of the industrious poor on the estate of Nisbet,—being

* The number of scholars at the parish school is necessarily much smaller than at the private schools, from the situation of the parish school, which is at a corner of the parish, and hemmed in by the river Whitadder.

the produce of a sum of money left by the late Mrs Carre of Nisbet for that purpose. In all, the sum expended in the support of the poor in this parish is about L. 175 or L. 180 per annum. It will be seen, therefore, that the increase of the assessment during last forty years has greatly exceeded that of the population.

Inns.—There are three inns in the village of Allanton, and one at Mountpleasant, on the estate of Kimmerghame. They have decidedly a bad effect on the habits and morals of the people.

Fuel.—Coals are the fuel used in the parish. They are brought from the county of Northumberland, a distance of thirteen miles; and from Eyemouth, a distance of about ten miles. The coals got at Eyemouth are brought by sea from Newcastle and from Fife.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Agriculture in all its branches has been vastly improved since the time of the last Statistical Account. There are now no infield and outfield lands,—no moor lands set apart for the casting of turf for fuel,—no swamps—no ague. A considerable quantity of land has been planted: and the parish roads have been greatly improved, particularly of late years. In 1759, the first act was passed anent turnpike roads and toll-bars in Berwickshire. The next act of Parliament on that subject was in 1787, to which there was great opposition. The general mode of carriage by all the parish roads at that time was on horseback, with panniers. Such a thing is now never seen, except, indeed, in the case of muggers, who still traverse this part of the country in gangs during the summer season.* The roads are so good now in all this part of Berwickshire, that a ton and upwards is the usual load of carriers drawn by one horse, and no person grumbles at the toll-bars. Two horses, one in the trams of the cart, and one in front, are generally employed by the farmers.

To show the change of times, I may mention, that I have in my possession the valuation of one of the largest properties in the parish, proposed to be sold in 1748, the free rental of which at that time was L. 320 Sterling. The rental of the same lands at present is about L. 2500 Sterling.

* A head constable has been appointed lately for the county,—one of whose duties is to prevent the itinerating of muggers in the county: and since this appointment very few muggers have been seen in this quarter.

November 1834.

PARISH OF COLDINGHAM,

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. JAMES HOME ROBERTSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE origin of the name Coldingham cannot be distinctly traced. It is most probably Saxon; in which language *Ham* signifies a village, *Col-den* a cold vale,—these terms correctly describing the situation of the present village, which is much exposed to cold winds from the east and north-east.

Extent and Boundaries.—The parish is of great extent, and of a very irregular figure;—its extreme length from east to west being 12 miles; its breadth 9. It comprehends about 57,600 imperial acres, upwards of 5000 of which, termed Coldingham common, are moorland, scarcely capable of cultivation. It is bounded on the north-east and north by the German Ocean, and the opening into the Firth of Forth at St Abb's Head; on the north-west and west by Cockburnspath parish; on the south-west by the parishes of Abbey St Bathans and Bunkle; on the south by Chirnside; and on south-east and east by the parishes of Ayton and Eyemouth.

It is still one of the largest parishes in the county of Berwick, and previous to the Reformation it comprehended most of the parishes just mentioned as at present constituting its boundaries. It was then termed in its charters *Coldinghamshire*. It is very uneven in its surface. A range of hills forming part of the Lammermoor range runs in parallel lines from east to west, intersected by valleys of considerable extent, and by numerous small streams. None of these hills are of great elevation; the highest, Wardlaw Bank, is 640 feet above the level of the sea; and the largest of these streams is the Eye, which, after traversing the whole length of the parish, falls into the sea at Eyemouth.

Caves, &c.—Numerous caves and fissures, formerly the haunts of smugglers, exist in the neighbourhood of St Abb's Head, some of these of considerable dimensions, excavated out of the solid rock,

are inaccessible by land, and can only be approached at low water, and in the calmest weather. Their narrow entrances are completely blocked up by the rising tide, and a gentle breeze from the east speedily creates a dangerous surf.

About a mile west from St Abb's Head lies Coddingham loch, which covers thirty acres of ground, is 300 feet above the level of the sea, and about 300 yards distant from it. The late Mr Blair, Professor of Astronomy in the Edinburgh University, attempted to ornament a small portion of its sloping banks with trees, but its high situation and contiguity to the sea rendered his efforts unavailing. The only fish in this lake are perch, with which it abounds.

Geology.—The parish of Coldingham is rich in various departments of natural history, particularly in that of geology. In no part of the kingdom are there more striking displays of stratification, or more singular and perplexing appearances, than along the magnificent sea-coast. The rocks throughout the whole extent of the parish belong to the transition class. Greywacke and greywacke slate are the prevailing minerals. Generally the strata are either vertical or inclined at a very great angle with the horizon, their general direction being from east to west. The stratification of this rock is seen to great advantage in the neighbourhood of Redheugh, but it is interrupted by rocks of trap at St Abb's Head, which, however, extend a very short way inland. St Abb's itself may be described as a huge insulated mass of trap rocks, of which the principal are trap-tuffa, amygdaloid, and felspar porphyry. These continue for some miles along the coast towards the east, interrupted by occasional displays of the older strata, till we reach the mouth of the river Eye, when the greywacke again presents itself.

Botany.—A very lengthened catalogue of plants might be given as indigenous to this parish. Cryptogamous plants are particularly abundant. A great variety of mosses, and many individuals of the order Felices, are also to be met with. Among the phenogamous plants we may mention the following as the most rare: *Arenaria verna*, growing in great abundance on the trap rocks on St Abb's Head; *Rhodiola rosea*, to be found in great beauty in Lumsden dean; also *Epilobium angustifolium*, decidedly wild; *Poterium sanguisorba* near, and *Nuphar lutea* in Coldingham Loch; *Glau-cium maritimum* on Coldingham sands, growing in company with the *Cynoglossum officinale*; *Alisma ranunculoides* in the moss at the foot of St Abb's Head; *Arundo phragmites*, *Betonica offic-*

nalis, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, *Tormentilla reptans*, *Pyrola rotundifolia*, *Pyrola media*, *Dianthus deltoides*, *Genista Anglica*, *Fedia olitoria*, *Gentiana campestris*, *Trollius Europæus*, *Lythrum salicaria*, *Parnassia palustris*, *Solanum dulcamara*, &c.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

St Abb.—About the beginning of the seventh century, Ebba, daughter of Ethelfrith, and sister to the celebrated Osway, both Kings of Northumberland, fled from Penda, King of Mercia, who was desirous to marry her, and seize her father's kingdom. Having embraced Christianity, she abhorred an alliance with a pagan, and resolved to escape from his entreaties and his violence. The vessel in which she embarked was driven ashore in a storm on that promontory which from her derives its name, St Abb. There she built a nunnery. A few of the foundation stones still stand on the verge of a rock overhanging the sea. Nowhere could she have found a more suitable situation for such a purpose. Remote from the world, the surrounding scenery is in harmony with every devout feeling. The neck of land, five acres in extent, on which it was built, stretches into the sea, having for its three sides perpendicular rocks of great elevation. The fourth side, by which alone an enemy could have approached, was cut off from the mainland, and rendered impregnable by a high wall and deep trench, while the immense height and ruggedness of the stupendous rocks by which it was surrounded, the overhanging precipices on which it stood, the dark caverns yawning beneath, the boundless expanse of ocean stretching in front, elevate the soul, and excite a religious tone of feeling. In a storm the situation is sublime in the extreme. The walls are drenched, and the atmosphere darkened by the spray. The building trembles to its foundation at the beating of the surge upon the precipice where it stands. A wild waste of broken waters rolls over the mighty masses of rock that lie scattered around, or, dashing with a stunning sound against the headland of St Abb's, shoot into the air. Here, amidst the greatest and grandest of nature's works, was the nunnery of St Abba founded. It is recorded in history, that the abbess and her nuns, about the year 837, to escape the licentiousness of the Danes, disfigured their faces by cutting off their upper lips and noses; but that the cruel invaders, unmoved by this act of devoted heroism, burnt the nunnery to the ground with all its inhabitants. The chapel of this nunnery and the cemetery which surrounded it, stood a mile to the east, on another mount. Little of them now remains; but the old inhabitants remember when

a considerable part of the wall and a semicircular arch was pulled down, and when the surrounding ground was used as a place of burial. *

Coldingham Priory was founded about the year 1098 by Edgar, King of Scotland, who, having been driven from his throne, fled into England, and obtained from William Rufus 30,000 men, and from the Abbot of Durham the banner of St Cuthbert, to assist him in subduing his rebellious subjects. He afterwards considered he was as much indebted for his success to the banner and the priests, as to the King and his soldiers; and as a proof of his gratitude, he founded the church of St Mary Coldingham, had it constituted a cell of Durham, and bestowed on it the lands of Paxton, Fishwick, and the village of Swinton.

The several kings, from Edgar, its founder, to James I regarded this priory with peculiar favour, and enriched it with valuable gifts and important privileges; but in the feeble reign of Robert III., and under the regency of the Duke of Albany, the kingdom being torn by faction, the monks found it necessary to put themselves under the protection of the powerful family of Douglas, who appointed Alexander, the Laird of Home, under-keeper; and thus commenced a connection between the family of Home and the priory of Coldingham, which terminated in that family obtaining all the temporalities of the priory. James III. endeavoured to suppress the monastery, and obtained the consent of his Parliament to apply its revenues to the support of the chapel-royal, which he founded at Stirling. The Homes, in consequence, rebelled, and a battle was fought near Stirling, in which the king was slain, 11th June 1488. In 1509 Coldingham was disjoined from Durham, and placed under the jurisdiction of Dunfermline by the Pope. Alexander Stewart, natural son of James IV. Abbot of Dunfermline, and Archbishop of St Andrews, was chosen prior. He was afterwards slain, fighting by the side of his father, on the fatal field of Flodden. In 1514, this high office was conferred on David Home, brother of Lord Home, who was succeeded by William Douglas, brother of the Earl of Angus. Adam, the next prior, was removed in 1541 to Dundrennan, to make room for John Stewart, the infant and natural son of James V., who was appointed commendator, while his father enjoyed the revenue. In

* The history of Coldingham Priory occupies a prominent place in the history of the south of Scotland; and we must refer the reader who feels interested in the fortunes of this still celebrated, once rich and powerful, priory, to Chalmers' *Caledonia*, Redpath's *Border History*, and to Raine's *History of North Durham*.

November 1544, the English seized the abbey, and fortified it so strongly, that all the efforts of the Earl of Arran, Regent of Scotland, failed to reduce it. In 1545 it was burnt by the Earl of Hertford, and never afterwards regained its former wealth and consequence. John Stewart, commendator, who married Lady Jane Hepburn, sister of the well-known Earl of Bothwell, died in 1563, leaving two sons, Francis and John, on the eldest of whom James VI. again bestowed the commendatorship of Coldingham. Francis, like his father, having rebelled against his kinsman and benefactor, the whole of the temporalities were taken from him and bestowed upon the Earl of Home. On the earl's death in 1619, John, the second son of Francis, who had been created Earl of Bothwell, was appointed commendator. This worthless and profligate individual, in order to procure the means of supporting himself in his career of dissipation and extravagance, alienated in small lots, all the lands which had hitherto remained attached to the priory, and from him the numerous small proprietors in the immediate neighbourhood of the church and village received the charters by which they continue to hold their property. Of this most ancient and richly-endowed monastery nothing now remained but its magnificent church, and the extensive buildings by which it was surrounded. It was left to Oliver Cromwell to complete its final overthrow, as he passed through Berwickshire to attack the army of the Scots. A strong body of the inhabitants of the district, who were generally Episcopalians and royalists, established and fortified themselves in the church and tower, in which their forefathers had successfully defended themselves against the Earls of Arran and Angus. The first detachment of troops which Cromwell sent, was repulsed with loss, and he was forced to bring up several pieces of cannon, which in two days shook the tower, and compelled its defenders to capitulate. He afterwards, that he might leave no means of annoyance in his rear, blew up the church, leaving only the north wall and east gable. The tower was ninety feet in height, and formed the north-west corner of the northern transept of the church. It continued in a very precarious state, till it fell about sixty years ago, and not a stone of it now remains. The north wall and east gable of the present church form the whole that remains of this ancient monastery, founded upwards of 700 years ago. They afford beautiful specimens of the transition from the Norman to the early English style of architecture. A number of circular arches, each two divided with an intercolumn-

niation, ornamented the whole of the north wall, resting on corbals, and having richly adorned canopies; but about sixty years ago, with most barbarous taste, the shafts of the arches were cut away, which greatly disfigured the interior aspect of the church. Above these still remain entire five windows of beautiful workmanship, nearly approaching to the lancet figure, and twenty-six plain and clustered shafts, with capitals of different forms, and ornamented with various kinds of foliage. Behind these runs a narrow corridor extending the whole length of the church. The exterior of what remains of the old monastery is remarkable for its beautiful simplicity. The design of the exterior corresponds with the interior. Below is a series of coupled Norman arches embellished with the Chiffon moulding. Above are lancet-shaped Gothic windows, with columns at the sides. The remains of several arches surround the building, and only a few years have elapsed since others were torn down for the sake of the stones. The Prior holding rank as a baron had the right of pit and gallows. The pit was situated a little to the east of the present church, and was filled up so late as 1800; the gallows stood upon a little hill about a mile distant, and is still called Gallowside. A quantity of bones, forming an artificial mound, were dug up here twenty-five years ago. Previous to the Reformation, the priors and monks of Coldingham had acquired the churches of Coldingham, Aldecamus, Ayton, Fishwick, Knapden, Corvendean, Edenham, Swinton, Nisbet, Berwick, Mordington, Lamberton, Ederham, Ercildoun, Smallhom, Stichel, with the chapels of Newton, Nenthorn, and others. The revenues of the priory were variously stated; but the following account from Lauchlan Shaw's Manuscript may be considered as nearest the truth: money, L. 818, 10s. 9d.; wheat, 6 chalders, 7 bolls, 3 firloths, 2 pecks; bear, 19 chalders, 12 bolls, 1 firloth, 2 pecks; oats, 56 chalders, 8 bolls, 2 firloths; peas, 3 chalders, 13 bolls, 2 firloths; and a right to a number of kain fowls, services and carriages from their vassals. By the charters of Alexander II., they had a right of warren and forestry over the extensive waste now called Coldingham Moor, with all the woods and forests adjoining, which charters may be seen at length in Mr Raine's History of Northumberland.

Antiquities.—There are some vestiges of a Roman camp on a hill west of St Abb's Head, and of a British camp on the summit of Ernsheuch, surrounded on three of its sides by lofty precipices. On the top of Wardlae Bank hill is another British camp, with

four rows of circular trenches. There is also a large Roman camp on its north-west side, two sides of which have been levelled; but two still remain undisturbed by the plough. The stations of the centinels on the brow of the hill may be distinctly seen.

Two miles to the west of St Abb's Head is Fast-Castle, built upon a peninsular rock jutting into the sea. The narrow neck which joins it to the land had been cut down almost to the level of the sea, and a draw-bridge was thrown over it, rendering it almost impregnable. The building, which is in ruins, forms one of the most striking and picturesque objects in the county, and is much resorted to by strangers, both on its own account and for the splendid view from the hill immediately above it, which presents the boundless extent of the German Ocean, rolling farther than the eye can reach, the fertile shores of Fife and the Lothians, the distant hills of Stirling and Perthshire, the numerous vessels passing and repassing, the rugged shores and massy rocks of St Abb's Head,—all forming a scene so vast and diversified—so near and so remote—that the imagination can add nothing to its splendour. As might have been expected, from the contiguity to the English border, there were in former days numerous strongholds in this parish, few vestiges of which now remain. Such was Langton Tower, Heughhead, Renton and Houndwood, the last of which was the hunting seat of the prior.

Land-owners.—The parish is divided among 59 heritors, 11 of whom have about L. 400 Scots valuation, among whom are Forman Home, Esq. of Billy; Henry Home Drummond of Blair Drummond; Sir John Hall, Bart. of Dunglass; Sir Samuel Stirling, Bart. of Renton; Mrs Coulson of Houndwood; William Hume, Esq., of Fairlaw; William Hood, Esq. of Sunnyside; William Macintyre, Esq. of Templehall; Thomas Weir, Esq. of Bogan Green; William Dickson, Esq. of Whitecross; John Fuller, Esq. of Hallydown; the Rev. Edward Sandys Lumsden of Lumsden; Thomas Henderson, Esq. of Press. 13 heritors have from L. 400 to L. 100, and 35 have from L. 100 to L. 1, 0s. 10d., all Scots money: 36 proprietors of land have upwards of the yearly value of L. 50 Sterling. It is much to be regretted that there is no magistrate in the parish, and few residing heritors, to whom the poor might apply for temporary relief, the oppressed for assistance, the ignorant for advice.

Parochial Registers.—The first entry in the parochial register of the parish was in 1694, when John Dysart was the first

Presbyterian minister after the Reformation: the register has since been regularly kept.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1801,	-	-	2391
1811,	-	-	2424
1821,	-	-	2675
1831,	-	-	2668
The number of families in the parish,	-	-	621
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	270
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	131

The number of illegitimate births in the parish during last three years was 13.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of acres in this parish, at once so large and so irregular, cannot be correctly ascertained; but these may be about 57,000, of which 5000 or 6000 are moorland. It is supposed that there are 100 acres of natural wood, and 400 of plantations. The indigenous wood consists principally of oak, elm, and birch. No additional land could be profitably brought under cultivation.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per acre may be estimated at L. 1, 11s.: the rent varying from 2s. 6d. to L. 5 per acre. Few or no cattle are taken in for grazing.

Rate of Wages.—Farm-labourers receive 1s. 6d. to 2s. in summer, and from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. in winter; masons and carpenters one-third more. There are 55 hand-loom weavers in the village of Coldingham, who are employed by Glasgow manufacturers to weave cotton, who for several years past have received only 6s. per week for working thirteen hours a-day.

Husbandry.—The general mode of husbandry practised in the parish is that of the four-shift system. Leases are generally for a period of twenty-one years. Farm dwelling-houses and offices are large and commodious, suited to the size of the farm and to the wealth and respectability of the farmer. There are neither quarries nor mines worked in the parish.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of produce yearly raised in the parish cannot be exactly ascertained: but the following is an approximation:

Grain,	-	-	L. 26,000
Potatoes, turnips, &c.	-	-	6,000
Hay,	-	-	1,200
Land in pasture,	-	-	18,000
Gardens and orchards,	-	-	30
Annual thinning of woods, &c.	-	-	20
Fisheries,	-	-	1,300
Total yearly value of raw produce raised,			L. 52,550

A small harbour for the security of fishing boats was erected at Northfield shore, about a mile distant from Coldingham, in 1833, at the expense of about L. 1200, one-fourth of which was raised by private subscription; Government supplied the remainder. Sixteen families reside close by at the picturesque fishing village of Northfield, who, with about 20 others living in Coldingham, obtain their livelihood by fishing. In addition to these, 30 persons proceed annually to the north for the herring fishing, which gives employment for fourteen boats from this place. The fish caught upon this coast are cod, which, when pickled, are sent to the London market; also, haddock, turbot, lobsters, which are transported in carts to the Edinburgh market.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-town—Villages.—The nearest market-town is Eyemouth, two miles and a-half distant. The villages are Coldingham, having a population of 850; Reston, 222; Auchincraw, 161.

Means of Communication.—A daily post goes between Coldingham and Ayton. Nine miles of the great London road traverse the parish, along which three public coaches daily travel; there are 53 miles of parish roads, upon which L. 160 a-year, in the conversion of statute-labour, are expended. All the bridges and most of the fences are in good repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated nearly at the south-east corner of the parish, in the village of Coldingham. The situation is inconvenient for the parishioners generally, as it has the sea on the east, and the neighbouring parish of Eyemouth, within a mile of it, on the south, and is above eight miles distant from the other extremities of the parish. The church was repaired, and one of the walls rebuilt, in 1662; the remaining part of the building is a part of the old monastery. The church can accommodate 1000 persons, and the greater part of the aisle is appropriated for free sittings, but has never yet been fitted up for that purpose. The manse, which is situated within a short distance of the church, was built in 1801, and repaired and enlarged in 1828. Two glebes are attached to the living; one, consisting of five acres of excellent land, valued at L. 4 per acre; the other, which was allotted to the minister at the division of the common, in lieu of his right of pasturage, also five acres in extent, but of very inferior quality, and worth L. 1, 10s. per acre. The stipend, by an augmentation obtained in 1833, was raised from 15 chalders 15 bolls, and L. 8, 8s. for communion elements, to 18 chalders, and L. 10 for communion elements.

A chapel was erected at the distance of seven miles from the parish church, on the estate of Renton, in 1794, by Sir John Stirling, the proprietor of Renton; and the Rev. Mr Beaton was ordained to the charge by the Presbytery of Chirnside, Sir John Stirling granting him a bond for L. 80 a-year. He was succeeded by Mr Marshall, who afterwards was appointed to a parish in Shetland in the year 1810; from that time, till 1831, with the exception of an occasional sermon during the first few years after Mr Marshall's departure, public worship ceased to be performed, and the chapel became much dilapidated,—no successor to him was appointed, as it was found impossible to procure a sufficient provision for the support of a clergyman.

In the spring of 1831, the present incumbent raised a sufficient sum among the inhabitants of the district in which the chapel is situated, for its complete repair; and in the month of November following, Mr Duncan, with the full approbation of all concerned, was appointed to officiate, and the religious charge of the people entrusted to him by the parish minister, and he has since continued to reside and labour amongst them. His income is derived from the seat rents, and a subscription received from Lord Douglas, Mr Balfour of Whittingham, and the parish minister,—which have hitherto averaged a little more than L. 60 per annum. There is one Dissenting chapel in the village of Coldingham in connection with the United Associate Synod.

Divine service, both at the church and chapel, is generally well attended, and there are few parishes where the Sabbath-day is more devoutly observed. The average number of communicants at the parish church is 560. The number of families in connection with the chapel at Renton is upwards of 70, and the average number of individuals who attend public worship there is 250, and of communicants 140.

Education.—There are eight schools in the parish, having 260 pupils; two of which schools are parochial, where the common branches of education are taught, together with the Latin classics, mathematics, and French; the other six are supported entirely by school-fees, in two of which the classics are taught, and in the other the ordinary branches of education. Both of the parochial schoolmasters have the minimum salary; one of whom draws L. 60 a-year from other sources, and the school-fees are as under; reading, 2s.; writing, 3s.; arithmetic, 4s.; Latin, 5s. per quarter. The opportunity of education is so generally embraced by the people, that there are few who cannot read, and the number of

persons who are not able to sign their name is very inconsiderable ; and there is no part of the parish so distant from a school as to prevent attendance. In addition to these sources of instruction there are four Sunday schools, which are numerous attended.

Literature.—The village of Coldingham is furnished with a subscription library containing 400 volumes, consisting of the best English authors.

Fairs.—There is a fair held twice a-year in the village, which has now dwindled almost to nothing.

Inns.—There are two inns and ten public houses in the parish ; four are situated on the great London road, and all of them are well conducted, and do not appear to be productive of any serious injury to the morals of the people.

Fuel.—The principal fuel used in the parish is coal, brought from the sea-port of Eyemouth and Berwick ; but the persons who live in the moorland parts of the parish chiefly burn peat.

Charitable Institutions.—A friendly society was established in 1791 ; it is in a very flourishing state, consisting at present of 125 members. The present amount of its capital stock is lent in small sums on floating security, and amounts to L. 700. The quarterly payment of each member is 3s. ; and the allowance per week to the sick and those unfit for work, 2s. ; and in the case of a funeral, L. 5 for expenses.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of individuals on the poor roll is 140, a few others receiving temporary aid ; and the average sum allotted to each is 1s. 3d. a-week. The poor are supported by a legal assessment, amounting to nearly L. 600 per annum, and there is no other source of relief except that afforded by the collections at church, which may amount to L. 10 per annum.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Nothing is wanting to promote the progress of industry and the happiness and comfort of the labouring classes, but the residence of the landed proprietors, scarcely any of whom reside in the parish. The consequence of this is, that the poor have none to whom they can look for assistance in adversity, or counsel in difficulty ; and the relative duties between rich and poor have no existence in this parish.

November 1834.

BERWICK.

T

UNITED PARISHES OF COCKBURNSPATH AND OLD CAMBUS.*

PRESBYTERY OF DUNBAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ANDREW SPENCE, MINISTER.

THE REV. ANDREW BAIRD, ASSISTANT & SUCCESSOR.†

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE parish of Cockburnspath, to which that of Old Cambus appears at a very early period to have been annexed, occupies the north eastern corner of the county of Berwick. Anciently it seems to have been written Coldbrandspeth, Cowbrandspeth, or Colbrandspath; but, with regard to the etymology of both this and the more modern name, Cockburnspath, there is much uncertainty. Tradition generally derives the former from a Danish general of the name of Colbrand, who, it is said, resided at one time in a castle of some strength in the centre of the parish, the ruins of which still remain; while the latter, on the same authority, is attributed to another family of the name of Cockburn, which, at a more recent period, acquired possession of the same stronghold, and the adjacent lands. Chalmers mentions that the original name began to be corrupted so early as the year 1506.

Boundaries.—In point of figure and extent, the united parishes may be described as nearly a square of $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles: being bounded on the east by Coldingham; on the south by Abbey St Bathans; on the north by the German ocean; and on the west by the parish of Oldhamstocks, in the county of Haddington.

Topographical Appearances—The general aspect of the parish is varied and uneven: being diversified by hill and dale, and intersected by occasional deep and picturesque ravines, through each

* According to Chalmers, Old Cambus is derived from the Gaelic name *Ald*, signifying a streamlet, and *Camus*, a creek or bay; and, in confirmation of this derivation, he mentions, that a rivulet passes at a little distance, and falls into an inlet of the sea. It is more probable, however, that its derivation is from the Gaelic adjective *Ald*, wild, savage, strange, and *Camus*, a creek or bay,—a derivation which is strongly supported by the bold and rugged scenery on the coast of this old parish.

† This Account has been drawn up by the Rev. Andrew Baird.

of ~~which a little~~ river works its troubled way to the sea. But, though thus ~~generally~~ uneven, a very marked distinction in point of scenery is nevertheless apparent: that part of the parish lying nearest to the sea being arable and highly cultivated, while, as it recedes from the coast, it becomes more hilly, and is principally adapted for pasture. This latter division of the parish may be considered as a continuation of that subalpine tract of country which is known by the name of the Lammermoor hills, a tract which, extending across the island in a direction from N. E. to S. W., terminates a little beyond the boundaries of this parish, in the bold promontory of St Abb's. The general outline of this hilly tract is smooth,—the hills being generally round-backed and lumpish in their shape, none of them rising to a greater elevation than between 500 and 600 feet, and having a direction in general from west to east. The valleys are deep, having each a little streamlet flowing through it, which, as it approaches the sea, becomes in many places exceedingly picturesque from the mingled charms of rocks and woods, and little waterfalls. Of these valleys, or deans, as they are here generally named, the most remarkable are Dunglass Dean, one-half of which is in this parish; the Tower Dean, so named from an old castle built on the edge of it; Edmond's Dean, in the more hilly part of the parish; and the Pease Dean, a ravine or glen remarkable for its depth and picturesque scenery, and across which was thrown, about fifty years ago, the celebrated Pease Bridge.

The coast of this parish is throughout bold, rocky, and steep, especially the eastern portion of it, where it merges into the hilly range, already described as terminating in the promontory of St Abb's Head. Along this bold sea line occur some very interesting and striking pieces of coast scenery. Of these, one of the most picturesque is the Cove, a little bay surrounded by precipices of above 100 feet in height, and which, by the building of a break-water, &c. has recently been converted into a pretty little harbour for the protection of fishing boats. So perfectly secluded is this little bay, and so unexpected is the scene which almost instantaneously opens to the view, that it uniformly produces on the mind of the stranger an almost electrical effect of surprise and admiration. A remarkably fine insulated cliff, perforated in the centre by the action of the waves, and another lofty and magnificent rock, bearing at a short distance so close a resemblance to an ancient tower or cathedral, as to be very easily mistaken for such in ruins,

add greatly to the effect of the other objects; while the extent of ocean beyond, the vessels of every size and description entering or leaving the Frith of Forth, and the bold headlands along the coast, complete a scene of remarkable beauty. Several natural excavations round this little bay have probably given to it the name of the Cove. These have partly been taken advantage of to form a range of cellars in the rocks, and also a road or tunnel, of about 60 yards in length, through one of the rocky sides of the bay, affording at high water the only means of access to the shore.

Various other very interesting coast scenes might be described, especially in the neighbourhood of Redheugh, in the eastern part of the parish; and at a spot named the Siccar Point, which may now be said to be almost classic ground. The geological phenomena which have made this point so celebrated, we shall have occasion to describe immediately; but in the meantime we may be permitted to mention it as a very striking piece of scenery. It is a lofty cape or headland running abruptly into the sea, at the base of which, by a good deal of scrambling, we arrive at a remarkably fine cavern of considerable height and extent, the roof being covered with very beautiful calcareous stalactitic encrustations, and the entrance being guarded by ranges of cliffs and isolated rocks, producing at high water, and especially when the wind has been for some days in the sea, a very splendid effect. Both the natural and scientific beauties of this place, Sir John Hall, Bart., the proprietor, has lately rendered more accessible to strangers, by means of a winding footpath along the sides of the steep sea-bank. Generally speaking, the coast of this parish may be described as an alternative of bay and lofty headland, the beach being for the most part rough and rocky, with very little extent of sand.

Meteorology.—The natural history of the parish is in many respects exceedingly interesting. But under this head, we shall merely observe, that there is a remarkable difference of climate between the lower and higher districts of the parish, insomuch, that gardens, &c. in the latter district are fully a fortnight later, and that, too, in some cases within a distance of little more than a mile. On account of the inequalities of the parish, rain sometimes falls partially; it being not unusual, in crossing two streams within a distance of a mile of each other, to observe the one much flooded, while the other is untouched. The aurora borealis is sometimes seen to great advantage on this coast; and uniformly,

in the course of our experience, is it a precursor of turbulent stormy weather. A remarkably fine display of this meteor took place in the month of October 1833. The whole heavens were covered with its splendour, and a gale very shortly followed of unusual violence. The height in the atmosphere of this meteor has been variously estimated, and it has been much controverted whether or not sound has ever been heard to proceed from it. On this occasion it may be worth remarking, that many respectable individuals in this neighbourhood are satisfied that they did hear such sound, and we have heard the same from others in other districts.

Hydrography.—The streams in the parish are numerous but small, the largest being the river Eye, which flows through the wilder part of the parish. Its banks are generally bare and uninteresting till it reaches the neighbourhood of Renton, in the parish of Coldingham, where it becomes both a larger and more ornamental stream.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The geological features of the parish are in many respects highly interesting, principally from the opportunities afforded in various places, but especially along the coasts, of observing the succession and position of the different strata and rock formations. Of these last there are two great classes, the transition and secondary,—the former composing the whole of the hilly part of the parish,—the latter being confined to the lower division towards the west and north. The transition rocks, so far as we have observed, are entirely the greywacke and its accompaniment the greywacke slate; no trap or other subordinate rocks presenting themselves, and, so far as we have seen, (and we have examined this part of our subject with some minuteness,) no vein, dike, or other extraneous mass occurring to derange the strata. The greywacke is very distinctly stratified, the general direction of the strata being from west to east; although in this respect, as well as in the dip and inclination, there are great irregularities. Of all the stratified rocks, indeed, there are none more varied and irregular in these respects than the greywacke. This is a remark which applies to all the transition districts of the island, but to none, we believe, more than to the district now described. Very frequently, perhaps we should say most frequently, the strata are vertical or nearly so.* This position continues for a considerable extent, when, all at once, they change to hori-

* Such is their position at the Siccar Point, in the bed of the Pease Burn, in the bed of the Tower Burn, in quarries on Ewieside, and other places.

zontal. Frequently, also, the most singular bendings and contortions may be traced; and sometimes a structure or arrangement on a great scale, exactly resembling that which in a smaller scale we observe in the agate or Scotch pebble. Not unfrequently, also, in the ravines we behold the following arrangement: viz. the bed of the small stream is composed of strata perfectly vertical, while on either bank they dip away at a greater or less angle in opposite directions. This rock, the greywacke, is, throughout the parish, of the same general characters, being commonly fine-granular and compact, in many situations, indeed, only a variety of sandstone.

To attempt an explanation of these irregularities in the stratification of this rock is what our space will not admit of, were we even able to present a plausible hypothesis. Satisfied, however, of the futility of theory on these subjects,—at least, of the impossibility of explaining all the appearances of such a district as that now described by any one system,—we prefer a simple statement or description of the appearances themselves, subjoining, in a note, one or two passages descriptive of this coast, from the interesting paper of Sir James Hall, Bart. of Dunglass, read to the Royal Society, February 3, 1812. *

* “The killas,” (or greywacke,) says he, “consists everywhere of an assemblage of strata of various thickness, from several yards to the minutest leaf of slate. It is in general of a dark-blue colour, and, when examined, is found to consist of a congeries of fragments, which bear the most undoubted proofs of having been deposited in an horizontal position. The strata lie parallel to each other, but are everywhere far from being horizontal, their prevailing and best known position being vertical or nearly so. They are often bent, however, at various angles, frequently very acute, and sometimes with the strata nearly doubled upon themselves. In all the inland part of this range the rock appears so partially, showing itself only in river courses, or in quarries, that it is difficult to obtain any correct information as to the position of the strata, which frequently exhibit great seeming irregularity, and which cannot be described without making use of language which at first sight bears an appearance of contradiction in terms. Thus, it not unfrequently happens that one set shows itself in a position at the surface nearly erect, but having a decided dip to the east; and that, in the immediate neighbourhood, another set occurs in a position similar to the first, but having a no less decided dip to the west.”

“On the shore of the sea, however, where these rocks are bare, and exposed in such a manner that our view can embrace at once a considerable extent of the mass, the general structure becomes apparent, and we are enabled to give a rational account of these seeming anomalies. This opportunity of observation occurs with peculiar advantage on the coast of Berwickshire, where the lofty cliffs which extend from Fast Castle eastward to Gun’s Green, near Eyemouth, present to the view a cross section of these strata, by which their position is seen to possess much more method and regularity than the inland rocks would have led us to expect. The strata here exhibit a succession of regular windings and powerful undulations, reaching from top to bottom of the cliffs two or three hundred feet in height. These are occasionally interrupted, as might be expected, by the irregularities of the coast, by shifts and dislocations of the beds, and sometimes, as happens at St Abb’s Head, by the intervention of whinstone, or occasionally of porphyry.

“Notwithstanding these interruptions, I reckoned (in an excursion to that coast made last summer with my son, Lieutenant Basil Hall of this Society) sixteen distinct bendings in the course of about six miles, each of the largest size, and reaching

The secondary rocks, as already said, are confined almost entirely to the lower division of the parish; consisting of alternate beds or strata of sandstone, a kind of shale, thick beds of indurated marl, irregular deposits of clay ironstone, and coarse deposits of conglomerate, generally occurring near the surface. Of these rocks, the sandstone is by far the most abundant, forming in many places, especially on the coast and on the sides of Dunglass Dean, very lofty and striking precipices. This sandstone appears to be of two different descriptions or formations: 1. The old red sandstone, extending for some miles along the coast, and resting immediately on the greywacke; and 2. The sandstone of the coal formation resting on the old red sandstone, and passing under the mountain limestone a few miles westward in the parish of Innerwick. The immediate junction of the old red sandstone with the greywacke is distinctly observable in various places; and in all of these, it is remarkable, that the direction and dip of the strata of both rocks, as well as the characters of the rocks themselves, are precisely and in all respects similar, though the situations where we observe this junction are considerably distant from one another.* One of these situations is the Tower Dean,—a deep and wooded glen in the centre of the parish, in the bottom of which, that is, in the bed of the little stream which flows through it, we observe this junction in several places. But the most striking situation is the Siccar Point, the natural scenery of which we have already described under a former head. The geological appearances at this latter point are so very remarkable as to strike at once even those who are the least acquainted with geology as a science. And no wonder, therefore, that they were thought of sufficient importance to attract at one time three of the most eminent men of their day; we mean Dr Hutton, Professor Playfair, and a name not less distinguished in the history of geology, the late Sir James Hall, Bart. of Dunglass.

An excursion, undertaken by such gifted individuals, and with such objects in view, could not fail to be one of interest; and, as it has been recorded in very elegant language by one of the distinguished party themselves, we shall beg leave to quote his admired description: “The ridge of the Lammermuir Hills, in the south

from top to bottom of the cliffs, their curvature being alternately concave and convex upwards.”

* *i. e.* The greywacke is arranged in vertical strata ranging from west to east, or nearly so, and the sandstone, which at the immediate junction is a conglomerate of fragments, generally speaking of the older rocks, dips towards the north at an angle of nearly 28° with the horizon, the junction being strikingly unconformable.

of Scotland," says Professor Playfair, "consists of primary micaceous schistus, and extends from St Abb's Head, westward, till it join the metalliferous mountains about the sources of the Clyde. * The sea coast affords a transverse section of this alpine tract at its eastern extremity, and exhibits the change from the primary to the secondary strata, both on the south and on the north. Dr Hutton wished particularly to see the latter of these, and on this occasion, Sir James Hall and I had the pleasure to accompany him.

"We sailed in a boat from Dunglass on a day when the fineness of the weather permitted us to keep close to the foot of the rocks which line the shore in that quarter, directing our course southwards in search of the termination of the secondary strata. We made for a high rocky point or headland, the Siccar, near which, from our observations on shore, we knew that the object we were in search of was likely to be discovered. On landing at this point, we found that we actually trode on the primeval rock which forms alternately the base and the summit of the present land. It is here a micaceous schistus, in beds nearly vertical, highly indurated, and stretching from south-east to north-west. The surface of this rock runs with a moderate ascent from the level of low water at which we landed, nearly to that of high water, where the schistus has a thin covering of red horizontal sandstone laid over it; and this sandstone, at the distance of a few yards farther back, rises into a very high perpendicular cliff. Here, therefore, the immediate contact of the two rocks is not only visible, but is curiously dissected and laid open by the action of the waves. The rugged tops of the schistus are seen penetrating into the horizontal beds of sandstone, and the lowest of these last form a breccia containing fragments of schistus, some round and others angular, united by an arenaceous cement."

"Dr Hutton was highly pleased with appearances which set in so clear a light the different formations of the parts which compose the exterior crust of the earth, and where all the circumstances were combined that could render the observation satisfactory and precise. On us, who saw these phenomena for the first time, the impression made will not easily be forgotten. The palpable evidence presented to us of one of the most extraordinary and important facts in the natural history of the earth gave a reality and substance

* The rock termed primary micaceous schistus by Playfair, Professor Jameson ascertained to be greywacke, a rock of the transition series.

to those theoretical speculations, which, however probable, had never till now been directly authenticated by the testimony of the senses. We often said to ourselves, what clearer evidence could we have had of the different formation of these rocks, had we actually seen them emerging from the bosom of the deep? We felt ourselves necessarily carried back to the time when the schistus on which we stood was yet at the bottom of the sea, and when the sandstone before us was only beginning to be deposited in the shape of sand or mud, from the waters of a superincumbent ocean. An epocha still more remote presented itself, when even the most ancient of these rocks, instead of standing upright in vertical beds, lay in horizontal planes at the bottom of the sea, and was not yet disturbed by that immeasurable force which has burst asunder the solid pavement of the globe. Revolutions still more remote appeared in the distance of this extraordinary perspective. The mind seemed to grow giddy by looking so far into the abyss of time; and, while we listened with earnestness and admiration to the philosopher who was now unfolding to us the order and series of these wonderful events, we became sensible how much farther reason may sometimes go than imagination can venture to follow. As for the rest, we were truly fortunate in the course we had pursued in this excursion; a great number of other curious and important facts presented themselves, and we returned, having collected in one day more ample materials for future speculation, than have sometimes resulted from years of diligent and laborious research.”*

In addition to this description, we have only to remark, that the old red sandstone at the Siccar Point dips to the N. N. W. at a considerable angle, 28° , a dip and inclination which it maintains on either side, for about a mile with little variation. At the termination of this mile, on the eastern side of the Siccar, the sandstone ceases altogether on the farm of Redheugh, a little beyond the Coast Guard station. Here it occurs very low in situation, being nearly covered at high water. But to the west of the Siccar it continues considerably farther, gradually becoming more horizontal, till it reaches the vicinity of the Cove harbour (about three miles from Siccar Point,) where the altered character of the rock itself, its different inclination, and accompanying strata, lead us to conclude that the old red sandstone has now ceased, and that it is succeeded by the lower measures of the coal formation. From the Coast Guard station already alluded to, to this latter point, a distance of

* Works of John Playfair, Esq. Vol. iv. p. 79-81. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1822.

about five miles, the sandstone is throughout nearly of the same general character, being generally coarse-grained, red in colour, and highly indurated. But here a decided difference is observable. The strata in the neighbourhood of the Cove become almost vertical; their direction also is somewhat altered, and we have now subordinate and accompanying strata of slate, marl, clay ironstone, and loose beds of conglomerate. Here, also, we begin to meet with impressions of palms and other tropical plants, which, till we arrive here, we seek for in vain towards the east. At the Cove, therefore, we think we can trace an imperfect coal formation, which, continuing westward for about a mile or two, terminates the geology of this parish. That the coal formation does occur in the parish, there are other facts to prove, besides what we would predict from the appearance of the sandstone and its accompaniments at the Cove. On the south side of Dunglass Dean, which may in fact be regarded as only a continuation of the rocks which show themselves so distinctly at the Cove, at the distance of about one and a-half miles, and also near the village of Cockburnspath, are to be seen the openings of several shafts, from which, about 100 years ago, coal was procured, though, from what we have been able to gather, it probably was not in such abundance as to encourage working, or afford temptation strong enough to sacrifice beauty to utility. Limestone occurs nowhere in the parish,—its substitute here being the indurated marl. A few miles farther along the coast, however, towards the west, this rock (the limestone) occurs in great abundance, being the encrinal or mountain limestone of geologists.

The soil in the parish is very various. Generally, however, it may be described as light; though in many situations, especially in the lower division of the parish, it is rich and strong, and well adapted for crops of every description.*

* Since writing the above outline of the geological structure of this parish, I have had the pleasure, not only of having its general correctness abundantly confirmed by Professor Sedgwick and Mr Murchison, two names which stand deservedly high in geological science; but I have also had the good fortune to accompany these gentlemen in several very interesting and delightful excursions along the shores. The geology of a great part of Berwickshire, I may be permitted to state, is exceedingly perplexing, from the very indistinctly marked formation which covers the lower and richer parts of the county,—a formation which, if it be determined merely by mineralogical characters, we would in very many places decidedly pronounce to be the new red sandstone. And such, indeed, it has been named and considered by various distinguished geologists: an opinion which the author of these remarks felt equally inclined to entertain regarding certain portions even of the coast of this parish. Since the visit of Messrs Sedgwick and Murchison, however, who spent some days at Dunglass after the breaking up of the British Association in September last, he has been induced, partly from a more careful examination, and partly from deference to two geologists of such acknowledged eminence, to give up this idea, and to consider all from the Cove westward (a set of rocks harmonizing entirely with those which compose the greater part of the Merse) as the lower and older measures of the coal forma-

Zoology.—In this department there is very considerable variety and interest, from the extent of wood and sea coast, and from the varied character of the scenery. A tradition exists, that “the wood of Penmanshiel was at one time frequented by wolves;” a very pretty story being told of two fair ladies (sisters) who, in a path of that wood, since named from them “Sisterpath,” were destroyed by these ferocious animals: the only consolation left to an unfortunate lover of one of the ladies being to collect next day their mangled remains, and to deposit them in an urn near the fatal spot,—which urn was found some years ago, and is now in the possession of Sir John Hall, Bart. Foxes are numerous: all the varieties recognized by sportsmen being occasionally seen. The badger is very frequently met with, both in the rocky deans and on the sea coast. The polecat, weasel, and ermine are also abundant, and the martin (*Martes fagorum*) is said, a good number of years ago, to have inhabited the woods near the Pease Bridge. The red squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) is also said at one time to have been a denizen of Dunglass woods. The otter (*Lutra vulgaris*) is occasionally seen near the mouths of the rivulets, and occasionally, also, the common seal (*Phoca vitulina*.)

Ornithology.—In Penmanshiel wood, jays build in considerable numbers. On the margins of the little streams we frequently see the beautiful kingfisher. The golden crested wren (*Regulus cristatus*) is also of frequent occurrence; and many a bird of fair and foreign plumage is occasionally seen to halt for a day or two among the woody retreats of the parish. Of these occasional visitants, we may notice, in particular, the Bohemian chatterer (*Bombycilla garrula*, Temm.), the hoopoe (*Upupa epops*), and the golden oriole (*Oriolus galbula*.) The sea eagle also has been occasionally shot. Hawks of many kinds build on the rocky sides of the deans, and on the lofty sea cliffs; the hunting hawk being frequently met with on the Redheugh coast. The raven (*Corvus*

tion; lower probably in point of position than even the lowest measures of the coal field round Newcastle.

In conclusion, I may only observe farther, that the two distinguished naturalists above named were equally struck with the great similarity of these rocks in many places to the new red sandstone of England, and that it was not till after a very careful examination that they felt themselves warranted to pronounce them as belonging to the coal formation.*

* In reference to this late investigation of Messrs Sedgwick and Murchison, it may be remarked, that Professor Jameson, in a memoir on East Lothian, (which tract, geologically considered, is a continuation of Berwickshire,) read before the Wernerian Society in the year 1815, remarks, “That the red sandstone, where its junctions can be seen, is observed to rest on transition rocks, and to be covered more or less completely with the common rocks of the coal formation,” which is the position given to these formations by the English geologists just mentioned.

corax) builds on the most inaccessible sea cliffs, the carrion crow (*C. corone*), and the hooded or royston crow (*C. cornix*) being also abundant. But perhaps the most interesting bird on this coast is the red-legged crow, or Cornish chough (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*), a bird mentioned about 300 years ago by Bishop Lesslie, in his work "de Origine Scotorum," as occurring on the eastern coast of Scotland, but which, since his days, had apparently been totally lost sight of, till a few years ago the author of these remarks found means to intimate its occurrence on these coasts to P. J. Selby, Esq.; thus confirming the accuracy of the Bishop's information, and showing, in consequence, that the limits usually assigned to the distribution of the chough in this country are erroneous. Rock-pigeons occur in great abundance in the sea caves, &c. along the coast; and, owing to the neighbourhood of St Abb's Head, well known as one of the principal breeding stations of sea fowl in the island, the variety of sea gulls and other aquatic birds frequenting the coast is very great. The goatsucker, or night-jar, (*Caprimulgus Europeus*), has also been frequently shot.*

Game is tolerably abundant: the usual kinds being the red grouse, black-cock, partridge, pheasant, woodcock, dottrel, &c.

Reptiles, &c.—In the woods and moors we meet with the adder or viper (*Vipera communis*) in considerable abundance, and occasionally, also, the blind worm (*Anguis fragilis*) is observed in the heaths and upland coppices. Three species of eft also occur: viz. *Triton palustris*, *T. aquaticus*, and *T. vulgaris*. The *Lacerta agilis*, or nimble lizard, is occasionally seen in the sunny heaths, and the natter-jack (*Bufo rubeta*), we have seen one specimen of.

Botany.—In this department of natural history there is also considerable interest, partly from the variety of natural scenery and elevation, and partly from the quantity of ground still in a state of nature. The deans are all interesting botanical stations. The shore also furnishes some interesting plants; and Penmanshiel wood contributes its numbers. Of all these, however, Dunglass Dean is certainly the richest and most interesting: a glen of such uncommon beauty and picturesque effect, that it never fails to excite in all who visit it the greatest admiration. This beautiful valley commences in the parish of Oldhamstocks, forming, for about two miles, the western boundary of this parish, and presenting throughout this distance a succession of scenes the

* A few days ago a very fine specimen of the bittern (*Ardea stellaris*) was shot near Old Cambus.

most beautiful which can be imagined. On its western side stands the elegant mansion of Dunglass, (Sir John Hall, Bart.) a residence of uncommon beauty. Occurring in this station, we have to notice, among a host of others, the following plants, which we mention, because many of them are rare in other districts: *Veronica montana*, *Vicia sylvatica*, *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, *Pyrola media*, *Anchusa sempervirens*, *Epilobium angustifolium*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Circea lutetiana*, *Allium ursinum*, *Thalictrum flavum*, *Cardamine amara*, *Hypericum humifusum*, *Lepidium campestre*, *Epipactis nida avis*, *Melica cærulea*, *M. uniflora*, &c. Belonging to the Cryptogamous class, we notice in the same situation the following interesting and beautiful individuals belonging to the order Filices: *Scolopendrum vulgare*, in great abundance, and exceedingly ornamental; *Asplenium adiantum nigrum*, *A. Trichomanes*, *Aspidium lobatum*, *A. aculeatum*, *A. dilatatum*, *Polypodium dryopteris*, &c. Among the mosses may be mentioned the following, as occurring in very great profusion, as well as in very fine fruit: *Bryum punctatum*, *B. rostratum*, *Hypnum undulatum*, *H. proliferum*, *H. alopecurum*, *Bryum hornum*, *Hookeria lucens*, &c. On the shore, we meet with the *Thalictrum minus*, *Glaucium luteum*, *Erythræa Centaurium*, *Cakile maritima*, *Ligusticum Scoticum*, *Silene maritima*, *Statice armeria*, and the beautiful *Pulmonaria maritima*, first noticed on these shores by the great Ray (1661), and lately rediscovered in the same situation. In various situations in the parish, we meet with the beautiful *Dianthus deltoides*. In the Pease Dean and Tower Dean the *Campanula latifolia* is abundant, and highly ornamental. In the latter dean, we also meet with the *Euonymus Europæus*, *Saxifraga umbrosa*, and the *Aspidium angulare*, being the first Scottish station, so far as we are aware, for this very handsome fern. On the sides of the hills, we meet with the *Juniperus communis* in abundance; *Genista Anglica*, *Gnaphalium dioicum*, *Tormentilla reptans*, &c. while, in other parts of the parish, we have noted the following plants, as being worthy of a place in this sketch of the natural history of the parish,—*Trollius Europæus*, *Drosera rotundifolia*, *Fumaria claviculata*, *Stachys arvensis*, *Peplis portula*, *Menyanthes trifoliata*, *Sedum Anglicum*, *Scutellaria galericulata*, *Cichorium intybus*, *Hyoscyamus niger*, *Rhodiola rosea*, *Symphytum tuberosum*, *Anemone nemorosa*, *Cistus Helianthemum*, *Trifolium scabrum*, *T. arvense*, *Rhamnus catharticus*, &c. &c.

We cannot conclude this imperfect sketch of the botany of the

parish, without a few observations on the woods and plantations, and the principal trees within its bounds. In all, there are about 550 acres of wood, of which about 440 belong to Sir John Hall, Bart. principal proprietor in the parish. These woods are of different descriptions, but, for the most part, they are natural. Considerable quantities of trees, however, have, especially of late years, ~~been~~ planted. The soil is evidently most congenial to oak, and this, accordingly, is the principal tree in the parish,—there being about 300 acres ~~covered~~ with it. Generally speaking, the species is the *Quercus sessiliflora*, ~~not~~ the *Quercus robur*; and many very fine picturesque trees of this kind ornament the rocky sides of several of the deans. Much attention has ~~been~~ paid by Sir John Hall to the management of his woods. Indeed, ~~nowhere~~ is a better system carried on, and nowhere, accordingly, are ~~woods~~ in a more thriving condition. From this attention which has ~~been~~ paid to the subject, the following facts become apparent,—that on soil formed from the debris of greywacke, Scotch firs and beeches will not thrive, though many attempts have been made for this purpose; but that oaks, on whatever soil they are planted, uniformly succeed. On the sandstone district, however, especially in the neighbourhood of Dunglass, both firs and beeches thrive amazingly,—there being few places in this country where finer trees of the latter are to be seen. A considerable number of Spanish chestnuts have been planted, within a few years, in both districts of the parish; and in both situations they thrive well. A good number of larches have also been planted, principally for the purpose of sheltering the young hard-wood. Many of the beeches in Dunglass Dean, and in the park, are above 100 feet in height, and hundreds of them have an average girth of 8 feet. There are also some very fine sycamore trees, and a considerable number of large and very handsome ashes. Among the more ornamental trees, the holly seems to be one that suits the soil and climate best. The laburnum also thrives well; and there is not, perhaps, a spot in the kingdom where the ivy is more luxuriant or ornamental. In the mosses, some very large fossil oaks have been occasionally met with.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—So far as we are aware, there is no account of the history of this parish, either printed or in manuscript, with the exception of the last Statistical Account. That it has been the theatre, however, of many important events, and that its ancient history,

therefore, is far from being devoid of interest, there are many ~~appearances~~ ~~tending to show~~, in addition to numerous notices scattered throughout the ~~works of our older chroniclers~~. Many remains of military stations and fortifications may be traced in different parts of the parish,—particularly in the neighbourhood of the deans, which at one time were all very formidable and important passes. Some of these remains are evidently British; others appear to be Danish. Of the former description, a very fine specimen is to be seen on the summit of Ewieside Hill; and of the latter, an equally interesting specimen occurs at the mouth of Dunglass Dean, on the summit of a lofty precipice overhanging the sea, from the shore of which, by very great labour, a covered way has at one time been cut through the rock, leading, by a winding course, to the fortification above. About three years ago, when this ancient encampment was broken up for the purpose of converting it into arable land, a great number of human skeletons, many in very good preservation, were dug up. The mode of interment had been very simple,—four large rough stones serving the purpose of both grave and coffin. Vestiges of the Romans may also be traced in several parts of the parish,—many urns having in various places been turned up by the plough, with several articles decidedly of Roman workmanship.

In 1544, the English army, under the Earl of Hertford, passed through this parish in returning from their desolating inroad into Scotland; and in 1548 it formed also part of the route of the Earl of Somerset's army in his memorable expedition. Several very curious accounts of the passage of both armies through the parish, particularly of their passage of the Pease and Tower Deans, are still in existence, and show how very important, in a military point of view, were these valleys or ravines.

Nearly in the centre of the parish, or about a mile east from the village of Cockburnspath, stand the ruins of an old castle, commonly called Cockburnspath Tower. It does not seem ever to have been a place of great extent, having been evidently built to protect the strong pass or ravine, on the edge of which it stands.* So early as 1073, this castle of Colbrandspath appears to have belonged to the Earl of Dunbar and March. Such is the statement of Boecius, who also gives the following ac-

* In Grose's Antiquities there is a sketch of this tower, regarding which the author remarks: "If the appellation of Cockburnspath, by which it is at present called, be a corruption of Colbrandspath, as, from many circumstances, seems to be the case, this was once a place of great note and consequence."

count of its coming into that family: "About the year 1061," says he, "a formidable band of robbers infested the south-east part of Scotland. One Patrick Dunbar* attacked them,—slew 600—hanged four score,—and presented the head of their commander to the king. That valour might not remain in obscurity, the king created him Earl of March, and bestowed on him the lands of Colbrandspath, to be held by the tenure of clearing East Lothian and Merse of robbers, and bearing a banner, whereon the bloody head of a robber was painted." What credit may be due to this relation we do not inquire; but it seems evident, that, at a very early period, the Earls of March possessed this castle, as well as that of Dunbar,—these forts being at that time of such strength and importance as to be considered keys of the kingdom. In 1484, King James III. having proposed to the Parliament, (on the attainder of the Earls of March,) to annex unalterably to the crown the Earldoms of March and Annandale, with the baronies of Dunbar and Colbrandspath, the borderers, fearful of a more rigid discipline than that to which they had been accustomed, raised a rebellion, in which the king was slain. In this rebellion, the rebels took the castle of Dunbar. This castle and barony of Colbrandspath appear subsequently to have formed part of the dowry, or marriage portion, of several of our king's daughters. It now belongs to Sir John Hall, Bart. of Dunglass, into whose family it came nearly two centuries ago. The immediately preceding possessor was the Earl of Home.

In the annexed parish of Old Cambus, the ruins of the old church named St Helen's still remain, overhanging a high precipice on the shore, and commanding a very striking and extensive prospect. With regard to the history of this building, and, indeed, the ancient history of this part of the parish in general, very little is known. Even the date of the union of the two parishes appears to be lost. From the nature of the building, however, which is a very simple piece of Saxon architecture, and from several other circumstances, it is supposed to have been erected some time in the seventh century. It was dedicated to St Helena, mother of Constantine the Great, and the circumstances of its erection, &c. have been thus handed down by tradition: Three Northumbrian princesses, having found it advisable to seek refuge in Scotland from a violent war which had broken out in their father's do-

* Elsewhere named Cospatrick, an English gentleman of rank, who fled from the tyranny of William the Conqueror into Scotland, about 1070, in the reign of Malcolm Canmore.

minions, set sail with some friends and domestics in a small vessel bound for some port in the Frith of Forth. A contrary wind, however, having sprung up, they could not weather St Abb's Head, but were obliged to land in some part near it. On landing, they were hospitably entertained by the Bishop or Prior of Coldingham; and, out of gratitude to the respective saints, through whose intercession, as they imagined, their lives had been preserved, they erected severally a chapel at their own expense, viz. St Abb's, on the summit of "the Head;" St Helen's, in the parish of Old Cambus; and St Bee's, on the shore of Dunbar; which last, however, has long since disappeared. Near this remarkable old ruin a considerable number of coins were found about three years ago, together with an ancient rosary. Many of the coins were much defaced, but others were exceedingly perfect. They were of silver, and of Athelstan or Edelstan the Great, grandson of Alfred the Great.

Eminent Men.—With the exception of the late Sir James Hall, Bart. of Dunglass, we are not aware of any eminent departed characters with whom the parish can claim any connection. Even he, indeed, can hardly be said to have any immediate connection with the parish, since neither his birth-place nor his residence were in it. Dunglass, however, being so very contiguous, to which the greater part of the parish belongs, we cannot omit his name, which will be respected as long as natural science is cultivated, to the advancement of which he so materially contributed.

Land-owners.—The land-owners, according to the value and extent of their respective properties, are, 1. Sir John Hall, Bart. of Dunglass, who possesses nearly three-fourths of the parish; 2. James Hunter of Thurston, Esq.; 3. Sir J. G. Suttie, Bart. of Balgone; 4. W. W. Hay, Esq. of Blackburn; 5. Thomas Broadwood, Esq. of Fulfordlees; and 6. James Balfour, Esq. of Whittingham, M. P.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers consist of three folio volumes, containing an account of the births and marriages which have happened in the parish from December 18, 1642, to the present time. They appear to have been very regularly kept, particularly that of marriages; but within the last thirty years parents have become very negligent in getting the names of their children entered in the baptismal register.

III.—POPULATION.

There does not seem to be any authentic account of the population.

from the improved morality and comfort of the inhabitants; the former, principally at least we suspect, from the superintendence of the coast guard, who have a station within the parish, consisting of six boatmen and a commanding officer.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—

The number of acres, standard imperial measure, under cultivation may be stated at	5200
Never cultivated, or remaining constantly in pasture,	3838
That might be added to the cultivated land, though not at present with much prospect of profit,	200
In undivided common,	0
Under wood,	550

Rent of Land.—From the great diversity in the quality of the soil, it is not very easy to state the average rent of arable land in the parish. A considerable part of the farm of Pathhead, and other lands near the village of Cockburnspath, rent as high as L. 3 per acre; while in some other parts of the parish, the rent of arable land per acre is as low as 5s. or 8s. The difficulty of stating an average sum is increased from the circumstance, that most of the farms are let at corn rents. Perhaps the average sum for the lower part of the parish may be stated at L. 1, 15s. per acre, and for the whole parish at L. 1. The rent of grazing an ox or cow may be averaged at L. 3 for the whole parish; a ewe or full-grown sheep at 8s. The rental of the parish may be estimated at about L. 8000.

Prices of Labour.—Ploughmen or hinds throughout the parish, with some trifling variations, are paid as follows:—10 bolls of oats; 3 bolls of barley; 2 small bolls, or 6 firlots of peas; L. 3 of *sheep-money*, as it is called in this parish, or *fallow-money*, as it is named in some other parts of Berwickshire; a cow kept summer and winter; 3 bolls of coals at 12 cwt. per boll; and 12 bolls, at an average, of potatoes. Every hind and cottar is required to keep a *bondager*. It should also be mentioned, that the hind's wife, instead of the payment of rent for the house and small garden attached to it, gives her services in cutting down the crop in harvest. Formerly it was permitted to the hinds to keep poultry,—a practice now very generally given up. Instead of this privilege they are allowed one-half boll of barley. Altogether a hind's income cannot at present be stated at more than from L. 22 to L. 24 per annum. Men-servants, with board, &c. receive for wages L. 9, 10s.,—that is, L. 5 for summer and L. 4, 10s. for winter; women servants receive generally L. 7, viz. L. 5 for the summer half year, and L. 2 for the winter.

Farm-labourers, labourers employed on the roads, &c. are paid at the rate of 10s. per week for the summer half year, and 9s. for the winter. The wages of mason and carpenter may be stated from 15s. to 18s. per week.

Prices of Implements, &c.—A double horse cart, full mounted, with iron axletree, costs L. 12, 12s.; a single horse cart, do. do. L. 10, 10s.; a long cart do. without wheels, L. 4, 4s.; a wheelbarrow, full mounted, 18s.; an iron plough, full mounted, L. 3, 3s.; a wooden plough, L. 1, 15s.; a pair of wooden harrows, full mounted, L. 2, 2s.; building stone and lime dikes, persquare rood, 18s.; building dry-stone dikes, per running rood, 3s.; sawing of fir-wood, per 100 feet, 2s. 6d.; sawing of hard-wood, do. 4s. 6d.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The breeds of sheep in the parish are various, according to the soil and situation. On the best land the pure Leicester is the breed preferred; on the higher ground they are generally of the Cheviot breed. A considerable number of half Leicester and half Cheviot are also kept. Very few black-faced are kept. Until lately, it cannot be said that much attention has been paid to the improvement of the breed of cattle. The cows at one time were of a very ordinary description; but of late years, it has been a practice for two or three neighbouring tenants to club together and keep a well-bred bull, since which time a very considerable improvement has taken place. More attention than formerly is also paying to the breed of farm-horses.

Husbandry.—The system of husbandry pursued differs considerably in different parts of the parish; but it may be safely affirmed, that in no part of the island is the management of land better understood than in this parish. The farmers of this neighbourhood have long been distinguished for intelligence and enterprise, and the changes which in consequence have taken place of late years, and are still taking place on the appearance of the country, are great. On one farm, 100 acres of moor have, within ten years, been added to the cultivated land of the parish; on another, 150 acres have been reclaimed within six years; and on various other farms the changes have been equally great. The general rotation of crops in the upper part of the parish is what is called the five-shift rotation, viz. 1. turnips or fallow; 2. barley or wheat; 3. grass; 4. grass; 5. oats. On the best land of the parish the rotation is the six-shift, viz. 1. fallow; 2. wheat; 3. hay; 4. oats; 5. beans; 6. wheat. The four-shift is also followed in some parts of the parish. The distance from lime is inconsiderable; but as the coals

necessary for burning it are all brought from a distance, it is not cheap. Sea-ware is much used, and highly esteemed as a manure. Bone-dust is also used to a very great extent,—a manure, the discovery of which has been of immense use in reclaiming waste ground not only in this parish, but generally throughout the country. In no part of Berwickshire is it used in such quantity as in this parish. A very striking instance of the importance of this manure may be seen in the case of the farm of Bowshiel, in this parish, where, by means of it, large tracks of high ground have not only been reclaimed, but are now producing immense crops.

The leases of farms are from nineteen to twenty-one years; a smaller duration being considered unfavourable to the occupier.

Notwithstanding the acknowledged high state of agriculture, we fear that a great deal cannot be said in commendation of the state of farm-buildings and enclosures in the parish. Compared with many other districts of inferior importance, the former may be described as possessed of very ordinary comforts; in most places of Berwickshire, both the farm-houses and steadings being superior. Throughout a considerable part of the parish, we may also state that little has been done in the way of enclosing land,—a circumstance which forcibly strikes the traveller in passing, and for which deficiency we have never heard any good reasons assigned. Among the principal improvements which have taken place of late years, may be mentioned casually the new line of post road from Dunglass Bridge to Renton,—the recently constructed pier and harbour at the Cove, and universal drainage.

There is hardly a necessity for a single remark on the quarries and mines of the parish. The only quarry worth mentioning is near the mouth of the Pease burn. The rock is the old red sandstone, and principally valuable on account of its qualification of standing heat.

Fisheries.—There are no river fisheries; but the coast affords considerable numbers and variety, giving employment to sixteen families, fourteen at the Cove, and two in Old Cambus district. The common fishes are, cod, haddock, whiting, ling, skate, halibut, and turbot. A great number of crabs and lobsters are taken at particular seasons, the latter being generally shipped for London from the port of Dunbar. Shrimps and prawns are numerous, but they are not taken. Herrings in former years used to frequent the coast, but for about eight years past, with the exception of a few shoals in

the end of September 1833, no herrings have been seen in this neighbourhood.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, calculated as carefully as possible, may be stated as follows :

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals,	L. 12880	0	0
Of potatoes, turnips, cabbages, and other plants cultivated in the fields for food,	3500	0	0
Of hay, whether meadow or cultivated,	700	0	0
Of land in pasture, rating it at L. 3 per cow or full-grown ox grazed for the season, and at 8s. per ewe or full-grown sheep pastured for the year,	2000	0	0
Annual thinning, &c. of woods,	500	0	0
Total yearly value of produce raised,	L. 19,580	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Villages, and Means of Communication.—Though hardly entitled to the dignified appellation of a market-town, the village of Cockburnspath may nevertheless be said to possess all the advantages of one. On its shops and tradesmen a considerable surrounding district is dependent, there being no place of equal size or consequence nearer than Dunbar on one side, or Dunse or Ayton on the other; the first town being eight miles distant, the two last fourteen. It is a neat clean village, containing a population of about 230, and affording to a great portion of several neighbouring parishes all the necessaries, and not a few of the luxuries, of life. Between thirty and forty years ago, this village presented a most decayed and miserable appearance, but, under the judicious management of Lady Helen Hall, lady of the late distinguished Sir James Hall, Bart., it has been amazingly improved both in comfort and in appearance.* The village contains a surgeon, a baker, a butcher, 2 grocers, or rather general merchants, one of whom has long carried on an extensive trade both wholesale and retail, 2 carpenters, who generally employ from 3 to 5 journeymen each, 3 tailors, one of whom usually employs 3 or 4 men, 2 smiths, 3 shoemakers, two of whom keep from 3 to 6 men each, 1 cooper, 1 constable, several masons, various dress-makers, straw-hat manufacturers, &c. The village belongs to Sir John Hall, Bart., and the householders are all tenants at will, there being no such thing as a feu in this parish. A considerable village exist-

* It would be unpardonable did we here omit to bear our testimony to the active beneficence, generosity, and charity of this excellent lady during the many years she resided at Dunglass, and whose absence would be deeply felt, were it not that fortunately the same spirit of kindness and charity has descended to her successor, the present Lady Hall of Dunglass, whose kindness and attention to the poor of this parish and neighbourhood are deserving of all praise and imitation.

ed at one time at Old Cambus, but it is now reduced to a few houses.

The parish contains no post-office; but by means of a runner who goes to Dunbar every morning, and returns in the evening, more than the usual advantages of a post-office are enjoyed. The parish has the peculiar advantage of being intersected by public roads, which afford convenient and easy communication to all quarters. The great eastern road from Edinburgh to London by Berwick passes through the centre of the parish, in a direction from N. W. to S. E.; its length from Dunglass Bridge to the other extremity of the parish being about five miles. A considerable part of it is entirely new within the last twenty-four years. Before that date the road was nearer the coast, passing along an old and very inconvenient bridge at one place, and along the Pease Bridge at another, which last was built in 1785–1786, in order to avoid the very dangerous pass which travellers, before that time, were obliged to cross near the sea. Part of this oldest road still remains rising through a height of upwards of 150 feet at a declivity of 1 foot in 5. Many old people in the parish still remember the mail travelling by this road. At that time it was carried on horseback, the post-office being at Old Cambus. When this old road was changed, the line by the Pease Bridge, &c. was considered, as well it might, a very great improvement. This, however, has also been abandoned. The last made line leaves the old road at Cockburnspath Tower, about half a mile westward from the Pease Bridge, passing in a south-east direction into the valley of the Eye by Renton, &c. This new line of road has been of great advantage to the parish, and though generally excellent, is still susceptible of great improvement. The numerous deep ravines which intersect the parish, give occasion to several striking and picturesque bridge scenes. Of these bridges there are four particularly deserving of notice, two across Dunglass Dean, one very ancient and picturesque, the other more modern and exceedingly beautiful, both in itself and in its accompaniments of rocks, woods, and waters. It consists of one spacious arch, about ninety feet above the bed of the little stream, the view from the top of the bridge being seldom equalled in beauty. About two miles eastward, at the old castle of Cockburnspath, the road is carried along another bridge, which, though not equal to the former in architectural beauty, is nevertheless, from its height and the wild beauty of the glen which it crosses, a very picturesque and pleasing object.

Pease Bridge.—But the chief of picturesque and striking

bridges is undoubtedly the Pease Bridge, to which we have already more than once alluded, but which demands a more particular notice. It is situated about one mile and a-half eastward from the village of Cockburnspath, crossing a very deep and spacious ravine, formed by a little rapid river called the Pease burn. Its length is 300 feet, its breadth 16, and its height 127. It has four arches, two of which rest on the banks of the chasm; a tall slender pier rising from the middle of the glen supports the other two. The view from the top of the bridge into the rocky yet richly wooded glen beneath, well repays a very long and fatiguing journey, but, to be properly impressed with the stupendous height of this beautiful structure, it is proper that strangers should descend the side of the glen to the bed of the stream, from which the view is equally sublime and beautiful. The bridge was built by Mr Henderson, and as a specimen of architecture has been long admired. In addition to these lengthened notices we may be allowed to mention, that in former times the Pease was considered a pass of great importance, from the circumstance, that a very few men were able to defend it against a multitude. Accordingly, it was one of the channels of escape which the Scottish army blocked up against Oliver Cromwell in the year 1650, and that celebrated general describes it in his dispatch to the Parliament, after the battle, as a place, "where one man to hinder is better than twelve to make way."

The other roads in the parish require no particular notice. They are generally kept in good repair, though, from the inequalities of the ground, &c. this is not always very easy.

Three coaches pass and repass daily, changing horses at the inn of Cockburnspath. These are, the Mail, the Union, a four-horse coach from Edinburgh to Newcastle, and a two-horse coach from Edinburgh to Berwick.

Harbours, &c.—At the Cove, distant about three-fourths of a mile from the village of Cockburnspath, a small harbour was completed in the month of October 1831. More than seventy years ago, a similar attempt was made by Sir John Hall, Bart., of Dunglass, who had actually proceeded a considerable way in the erection of a pier, when a heavy sea from the north-east entirely destroyed it. A similar fate befel another attempt immediately before the present pier was erected, which, in consequence, was built upon another plan, and may now safely bid defiance to any sea. The expense of this work, which was considerable, was defrayed partly

by Government, partly by Sir John Hall, Bart. Unfortunately it is found to be of much less advantage than was anticipated, the consequence, we believe, of a change in the direction of the main pier from that originally proposed, which, though intended as an improvement, has turned out the very reverse. The entrance, likewise, is too wide, admitting too much sea. Though intended principally as a protection for fishing-boats, larger vessels, nevertheless, occasionally come in laden with coals, bone-dust, &c. It will hardly, however, admit with safety vessels above sixty tons burden.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church, though situated much nearer one corner of the parish than any other, may, nevertheless, be described as so far convenient, that it stands in the most populous part of it. It is only about half a mile from the extremity of the parish in one direction, while in some others, it is fully four and five miles distant. We have sometimes found, however, that those who come the farthest attend most regularly. When the church was built, I have never been able to discover. It is, however, an ancient structure;—one of the stones taken from it at a late repair bearing the date of 1163. It remained long in a most uncomfortable state; but repairs at various times have been made upon it, especially in 1807, when it was newly seated and rendered more comfortable; and again to a trifling extent in 1826. Additional repairs have been obtained since the writer of this account was settled in the parish, 100 new sittings having been added, and the church-yard, which before his settlement was in a most disgraceful state, having been well-fenced and made as neat as any church-yard in the county. With the late additional sittings, there is accommodation for about 400 people. The seats belong entirely to the heritors.

I have never been able to learn at what time the manse was built. The greater part of it, however, is evidently ancient. It was repaired in 1791, and again in 1808. Some additional repairs were also obtained about two years ago, which have made a comfortable, though certainly by no means either an elegant or very commodious mansion.

The glebe measures about $7\frac{1}{2}$ English acres, and is let at the rate of L. 3 per acre, including the driving of coals and the quantity of potatoes required by the minister.

The stipend modified in March 1831 is seventeen chalders, half meal and half barley, at the highest Merse fiars prices, with

two bolls of wheat. The allowance for communion elements is L. 8, 6s. 8d. The amount converted into money was for crop and year 1832, nearly L. 230; for crop 1833 about L. 220. The Crown is the patron of this living.

A chapel belonging to the United Secession church was erected about forty-five years ago at Stockbridge, about a mile south from the village of Cockburnspath. Particular circumstances led to its erection, which it would not be agreeable here to state; but having once been erected, it has continued not only to exist, but to keep together a very considerable congregation. It ought to be stated, however, that the congregation is not all from this parish, but that a pretty large portion of it is from the adjoining neighbourhood. The managers have the letting of the seats, and they bind themselves to pay their minister L. 100 per annum. This sum, however, notwithstanding that a considerable debt still remains unpaid, is generally increased, so as to make the minister's income from L. 120 to L. 125 per annum.

The chapel is to be considered in the light of a feu from Sir John Hall, Bart. a yearly acknowledgment being now exacted of a boll and a half of barley.

The number of families attending the Established church is about 112, but a considerable additional number attend from the adjoining parish of Oldhamstocks, on account of the more convenient distance. The number of families in the parish who attend the meeting is about 87. There are some families in the parish who are members neither of church nor meeting, and these we have not included. The number of male heads of families in communion with the church is 90, attached to the meeting 74. The average number of communicants at the Established church is about 285. Notwithstanding what we must acknowledge to be the very considerable number in this parish attached to the Secession, it is exceedingly gratifying to be able to state, and we do it from a very recent personal visit to almost every house in the parish, that exceedingly few, indeed, can be said to be attached to voluntary principles, notwithstanding the too numerous attempts at the present time to inflame men's minds upon this subject. Were people left to their own quiet judgments, there is no wish, we are persuaded, throughout this country, that the Established church should be overturned. Multitudes we have seen who do not even know what is meant by the term voluntary, and, from what we have lately seen, we are perfectly certain that many of

those Dissenting ministers who now advocate so boldly and confidently, the voluntary scheme, would be somewhat mortified, as well as surprised, if they were to take the sense of their congregations on this important question. Divine service, we are happy to state, is generally very well attended, both at church and meeting.

Education.—There are three schools in the parish, the parochial school, a school supported by subscription in the village of Cockburnspath, and an endowed school in the district of Old Cambus. In the parochial school, which is ably conducted, the branches generally taught are, English reading, English grammar, writing, arithmetic, book-keeping, Latin, and practical mathematics; sometimes also Greek, French, geography, and the theory of mathematics. The salary of the parochial schoolmaster is L. 30, and the yearly average amount of school fees for the last ten years is L. 45. This sum, however, is never completely realized on account of bad payments. The yearly season for teaching continues for three quarters and a-half, each thirteen weeks, and the expense of attendance during that time is, for English reading, 10s. 6d.; writing, 14s.; arithmetic, 17s. 6d.; Latin, L. 1, 6s. 3d. The average annual number of scholars is 90. The school-house is good, but the dwelling-house is very uncomfortable. Repairs, however, have been ordered, and are to be proceeded with immediately. The branches taught in the other two schools are nearly similar to those in the parochial. The average number attending the subscription school is 30, attending the Old Cambus school, 45. This last school, which is also well taught, has a salary attached to it of 8 bolls of oats, and L. 13 of money, with a free house. The number of children under five years of age who are now learning to read is, of males, 7; of females, 5: total, 12. Of children between five and fifteen, now learning to read, the number is of males, 116; of females, 60; total, 176. Of children between five and fifteen years of age, now learning to write, the number is, of males, 75; of females, 30; total, 105. One or two old people can neither read nor write: but, as will be seen from the foregoing statement, the inhabitants of this district seem on the whole to be very much alive to the benefits of education, while scarcely any part of the parish can be said to be so distant as to prevent attendance at school.

Literature.—A subscription library has been in existence in the parish about twelve years, and is at present in a thriving condi-

tion. There is also a small village library, and one or two Sabbath school collections of books.

Friendly Society, &c.—A Friendly Society was in existence about fifteen years ago, but, from some mismanagement of the funds, or some other reason, it became unpopular, and was broken up. No attempt has since been made to revive it. No savings bank exists in the parish. The establishment of one, however, is in contemplation. The nearest, or at least the one which might be rendered most available, is that of Dunse.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—Until the author of this account was settled in the parish, about three years and a-half ago, there was no legal assessment for the support of the poor; what was required for this purpose in addition to the collections, &c. being defrayed by Sir James Hall, Bart. principal heritor in the parish. This he preferred to a legal assessment levied upon the heritors according to their respective valued rents; his reason being, that, if such an assessment were established, his proportion of it would speedily amount to more than what he formerly paid for the support of the whole poor of the parish. A few months, however, after the settlement of the officiating minister, a troublesome case occurred, which required an extraordinary expenditure, and, as it was unreasonable that the Dunglass family should be charged with this expense, when the pauper had never been on their property, and as the other heritors were unwilling to contribute voluntarily, there was no course left but to call an heritors' meeting, and to get an assessment established on a just and legal footing.

Since that time the heritors' books have every day been confirming the correctness of Sir James Hall's prediction,—though still the amount is by no means great.

The average annual number of paupers who have received parochial aid for the three years ending at Lammas 1834 is 30. The average sum allotted to each per quarter is L. 1, making an average yearly assessment of L. 120 for the ordinary aliment of the poor. Extraordinary cases of distress, however, at times occur, demanding an additional help from the heritors. The average annual collection at the church doors amounts to L. 13, more than one-half of which goes to pay the church officers, leaving the remainder in the hands of the kirk-session for the relief of the occasional poor and distressed. The only other fund for the support of the poor arises from the letting of the mortcloth, and from the interest of 500 merks, for which the session has a bond on one of

the heritors. We wish we could say there is any thing like a general disposition among the poor to refrain from seeking parochial relief. With one or two honourable exceptions, the reverse, we regret to say, is the true state of the case.

Fairs.—Cockburnspath fair is said to have been at one time a market of some importance. Now the principal commodities exposed to sale are gingerbread, and a few toys for children. It holds on the second Tuesday of August.

Inns.—There are three licensed inns or public-houses, besides a toll-bar, and a shop in the village licensed to sell spirits. The two last might well be spared; for, although we do not mean to say that the inhabitants of this parish are more addicted to intemperate habits than their neighbours in other places, yet the increasing number of such houses, and the readiness with which licenses are granted, cannot be viewed without alarm by all who wish well both to the temporal and spiritual interests of the people.

Fuel.—The general fuel is coal, but wood and peats are both used to a considerable extent, especially by the poorer classes. The coal used is principally brought by sea, either to the Cove harbour in this parish, or to that of Skateraw, in the adjoining parish of Innerwick. The nearest coal wrought is on the other side of Berwick-upon-Tweed, more than twenty-two miles distant. Including carriage, &c. coals cost in this parish, according to the quality, from 9d. to 1s. per cwt.

December 1834.

PARISH OF EYEMOUTH.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JOHN TURNBULL, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries, Name, &c.—THE parish of Eyemouth may be described as nearly a square of one mile and a-half, each side, in extent. It lies on the eastern part of the sea coast of Berwickshire, and is bounded on the north by the German Ocean; on the east and south by the parish of Ayton; and on the west by that of Coldingham. The derivation of its name is sufficiently obvious; the town of Eyemouth, which contains the principal part of the population of the parish, being situated at the mouth of the small river called the Eye, which, rising at the Dodhill, in the parish of Oldhamstocks, and flowing through those of Cockburnspath, Coldingham, and Ayton, bounds the parish on the east side for about a mile and a-half, and then empties itself into the sea, forming the bay and harbour of Eyemouth.

Topographical Appearances.—The coast-line, commencing at the promontory called the Fort, which forms the northern boundary of the bay of Eyemouth, and is the great bulwark of the town and harbour against the gales which blow from that quarter, is rocky and precipitous throughout its entire extent, running at an average height of eighty feet above the level of the sea, and exhibiting appearances which, to the geologist, are not devoid of interest. It is intersected by several remarkable fissures, or gullies, and exhibits strong symptoms of igneous agency. In one place it is perforated to a short extent by a cavern, which is tenanted by flocks of rock-pigeons, and the roof of which is ornamented by elegant specimens of the *Asplenium marinum*. The extent of coast is a mile and a-half, and the beach is accessible only at three points,—at the Crimels, at the bay of Killiedraught, and at Eyemouth. At Crimels and Killiedraught, roads have been formed at considerable expense, which are used for transporting to the adjoining lands the sea-weed, or ware, which is cast ashore after stormy weather; but it is only at Eyemouth that the wall-like precipices, by

which the coast is begirt, are interrupted, and that a safe and commodious access is obtained to the shore. The bay of Eyemouth is formed by the promontory of the Fort, and by the projecting point of Gunsgreen, and is protected in front by a remarkable ridge of rocks called the Harkers, round either extremity of which vessels pass in approaching the harbour. The position of these rocks, it is said, suggested to Government the idea of uniting them to the mainland by cones, or buttresses, according to the plan practised at Cherbourg; but the vast expense which would be necessary for that purpose, and the very limited extent of anchorage which, after all, would be afforded, have caused the project, if ever seriously entertained, to be abandoned; and the bay is now only resorted to by vessels waiting the flow of the tide to enable them to pass into the harbour. Its outline is exceedingly graceful, sweeping round the bases of the houses in a semicircular form, from the harbour to the rocks on the opposite side; and, on account of its gentle slope and gravelly bottom, it is much resorted to by bathers in the summer season.

Hydrography.—The only stream of any consequence is the Eye, a small but very ornamental river, which, at the south-eastern corner of the parish, receives as a tributary the Ale,—a rivulet, which, flowing for some miles through a valley occasionally deep and picturesque, forms the southern boundary of the parish. The highest tides reach about half a mile above the mouth of the Eye. There are no lakes or cascades, nor are the springs in any respect worthy of particular notice.

Geology.—The geology of the parish is in some respects very interesting, though occasionally very difficult to be correctly described, partly from the want of opportunities, in some places, of ascertaining the succession of the rock formations, and partly from the indistinct character of several of these rocks, even where they are sufficiently exposed to view, as, for instance, on the sea coast. Speaking generally, it may be described as a district consisting of greywacke and greywacke slate, with subordinate rocks of trap, and slight traces of the old red sandstone. The greywacke occupies only a small portion of the parish, though in the neighbourhood, especially towards the west, it is a very abundant rock; the large parish of Coldingham being almost entirely composed of it. This rock we trace in the bed of the Eye throughout all its extent, the strata varying exceedingly both in direction and in inclination; though, generally speaking, they are elevated at a considerable

angle, not unfrequently perfectly vertical.* The prevailing direction of the strata is from west to east. In composition, this rock bears the same general character throughout the parish, being compact and fine-grained; in many places, indeed, it is only a variety of sandstone. It forms a very good building stone, and is the principal mineral employed for that purpose. The trap and porphyry rocks are more abundant; they present themselves on the western side of the bay of Eyemouth; but their exact position, with reference to the greywacke on the opposite side of the bay, it is by no means very easy to ascertain, the space between being constantly under water. These trap and porphyry rocks form very considerable precipices all along the coast, and the scenery, in consequence, is in various places highly picturesque. With little interruption they continue from the town of Eyemouth to St Abb's Head, beyond which the greywacke again appears; but how far they extend from the coast into the interior cannot be easily ascertained, though probably the distance is inconsiderable. Of these trap rocks the principal are trap-tuff and felspar porphyry, the former being most abundant. The trap-tuff occasionally contains large masses of porphyry, a good deal of the green ore of copper, and large portions of greywacke. Occasionally, also, the finer portions of this rock assume such an appearance of stratification, as is apt not a little to puzzle the observer. An attentive examination, however, leads to the conclusion, that, instead of stratification, it ought rather to be considered as a modification of structure. This appearance is particularly observable beyond the Bay of Killiedraught, at the western extremity of the parish, it being exceedingly difficult, in examining several parts of the cliffs in that direction, to say whether they are

* Opposite Netherbyres, these rocks have been quarried to a considerable extent, to supply stones for the improvements in progress there. At first, the strata, as above noticed, were found vertically disposed, but at the bottom of the quarry, after turning and twisting about in a very remarkable manner, they assumed the form of a long, low-browed double arch. The surface of this arch is so smooth, and so perfectly turned, that it resembles a work of art rather than an operation of nature. A friend, who has devoted much of his time to the study of the geology of Berwickshire, has given the following explanation of the appearance which these rocks present:

"The rocks in the channel of the Eye from its mouth to Ayton mill are the greywacke or transition rocks. They can be proved to have been originally deposited horizontally. Now to account for their disturbance; they have been, at a subsequent period, elevated,—and elevated by an eruption of lava or trap, which has burst through them in an igneous state. The Hill of Highlaws is composed of this trap. You will see it in the harbour, on the north-west corner, where it has lifted up the conglomerate. You will also see it on the Highlaws, where it is quarried. This trap, in bursting through and lifting up the greywacke rocks, has softened them, and in many places the greywacke strata, whilst in that softened state, have, probably by their own weight, folded over one another, and thus formed arches in appearance."

stratified or unstratified, whether they are trap or a variety of the graywacke.

The only other rock which we have to notice as occurring in the parish is a remarkable mass of breccia or coarse conglomerate, which must be referred to the old red sandstone formation. It forms the beautiful projecting point known by the name of the Fort, on the north-west side of the Bay of Eyemouth. The space which it occupies is inconsiderable, being apparently little more than the eighth part of a mile square, with an average thickness of about fifty feet; but in point both of structure and situation it is highly interesting. It rests immediately on the trap rocks already described, the junction being well seen round nearly half a mile of sea-coast. One-half rests on the trap-tuff, and the other on the porphyry. Though somewhat rude and imperfect, a stratification may, nevertheless, be traced, the strata being nearly horizontal. As in other situations where the oldest member of this formation is observed, it is here composed almost entirely of the detritus of the rocks on which it rests, and of the older rocks in the neighbourhood, viz. greywacke, porphyry, &c. united generally by an arenaceous cement. It is remarkable that, on both sides of the high land terminating at St Abb's Head, we find, as we recede from St Abb's, and very nearly at equal distances, the same great succession of rock formations. What distinguishes the situation of the old red sandstone in this parish from its corresponding situation on the other side of the high land alluded to, is, that there it rests, as we would expect, immediately on greywacke, while in this parish it rests upon trap. Whether this great mass of conglomerate has been deposited subsequently or antecedently to the formation of the trap, is a question which we leave to be settled by geologists; although we cannot help saying that the appearances observable incline us to the former supposition. This conglomerate forms an excellent building stone in situations where it is exposed to the action of sea water, for which purpose it has been extensively employed in the construction of the breakwater, quays, &c. of the harbour of Eyemouth. It can be quarried in masses of any size.

Zoology.—So far as we have been able to learn, there are no animals either rare or peculiar to the parish. The otter is frequently met with in the Eye, and the seal is occasionally seen in the Bay of Eyemouth. Porpoises also are numerous off the coast in the summer season. In 1817, a whale of a very large size was observed floating a little way off this coast, and towed into the bay.

It measured about sixty-six feet in length. The species was the *Balæna Boops*.

In the department of ornithology there is no great variety. The kingfisher and dipper are occasionally seen flying about the Eye. The golden-crested wren is also frequently met with. The starling, fieldfare, and missel-thrush occasionally halt for a week or two in large flocks. The Bohemian chatterer is also occasionally seen in the plantations about Netherbyres. The sandpiper breeds on the margins of the streams. The woodcock, the common snipe, and the jack-snipe, are common. The water-hen abounds in the Eye. Herons are observed in great numbers preying upon the smaller fish both in the Eye and on the sea-coast. The creeper, great titmouse or ox-eye, cole-mouse, long-tailed titmouse, &c. are common. Linnets and finches of various kinds are also common; the bullfinch being not infrequent. A few months ago several swans made their appearance in the bay of Eyemouth, one of which was shot. Owing to the neighbourhood of St Abb's Head, well known as a great breeding station of sea fowl, a great number of aquatic birds frequent our coast; of these the principal are cormorants, auks, gulls, many of the ducks, several of the divers, and one or two species of grebes. The solan goose is an occasional visitant. The guillemot and tern are abundant; and occasionally, in particular states of the weather, the stormy petrel is observed at no great distance from the shore. The more common birds of the game kind are partridges and pheasants, the latter having increased considerably within the last few years. The principal fishes of the coast are haddock, cod, ling, turbot, halibut, skate, &c.

Botany.—Owing to the small extent of the parish, a great variety cannot be expected in the department of botany. On the sea shore, however, we meet with several interesting plants, while the woods about Netherbyres, and the banks of the Eye and Ale, contribute their numbers. In the former station we may mention, among others more commonly met with, *Ligusticum Scoticum* (lovage,) *Thalictrum minus*, *Silene maritima*, *Veronica scutellata*, *Triglochin maritimum*, *Eupatorium cannabinum*, *Cynoglossum officinale*, *Glaucium luteum*, *Cakile maritima*, *Arenaria marina*, and, in excavated sea rocks, the *Asplenium marinum*, (a very pretty fern.) On the sea banks at Gunsgreen, the beautiful *Scilla verna* occurs in considerable abundance. The station is not exactly within the parish, but is so very near its bounds that it cannot be omitted. The discovery of this interesting plant is due to the Rev. A. Baird, minister of Cockburnspath. The station now mentioned is the

only one as yet ascertained for it on the east coast of Scotland. On the authority of the same gentleman, we may mention the following plants as occurring on the banks of the Eye, and in other situations in the parish, viz.: *Thalictrum flavum*, *Epipactis nidus avis*, *Arum maculatum*, *Rumex sanguineus*, *Listera ovata*, *Thalictrum majus*, *Tulipa sylvestris*, *Geranium lucidum*, *Sium angustifolium*, *Lamium amplexicaule*, *L. incisum*, *Sedum Telephium*, *Daphne Laureola*, *Dipsacus sylvestris*, *Chara hispida*, *Cichorium Intybus*, *Sagina apetala*, *Astragalus hypoglottis*, *Alium ursinum*, *A. vineale*, *Fedia olitoria*, *Samolus Valerandi*, *Cardamine amara*, &c. &c. Of these plants, the most interesting are the *Thalictrum majus*, the *T. flavum*, for which only two other stations have been ascertained in Scotland, *Rumex sanguineus*, a plant of rare occurrence, and the *Epipactis nidus avis*, not frequently met with. The *Tulipa sylvestris* to all appearance is decidedly wild; but, as its station is only a little way from Netherbyres, it may perhaps prove to be an outcast of the garden at some former period. With the mention of two other plants we shall conclude this imperfect sketch of the botany of the parish; the one is the *Primula veris*, the umbellate variety, which is frequently confounded with the *Primula elatior* or ox-lip; it occurs both on the sea banks and on the Eye in tolerable abundance; it is the *Primula elatior* of Greville's *Flora Edinensis*, the true *Primula elatior* having, so far as we are aware, no station in Scotland. The other plant is a variety of *Geum*, intermediate between the *Geum rivale* and the *G. urbanum*. It is noticed by Professor Hooker as occurring in the neighbourhood of Glasgow, and is supposed to be a hybrid between the two species already mentioned. It grows on the hedge sides between Eyemouth village and Eyemouth mill.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

No ancient or modern accounts of the history of this parish are known to us. The chartularies of Coldingham priory are the chief sources from which our knowledge of the early history of this and the neighbouring parish of Ayton is to be derived, as there can be no doubt that both of them were dependencies upon that ancient Establishment.* As a sea-port, Eyemouth would naturally be resorted to by the monks in their passing to and from foreign parts; and there can be little doubt that the earliest commercial transac-

* The earliest mention made of Eyemouth in the records of Coldingham occurs in a Charter issued during the reign of William the Lion, and consequently between the years 1174 and 1214. By this, Edward, son of Peter de Lastailrig (Restalrig,) Baron of the King of Scots, gave and granted to God, St Mary, St Ebb, Herbert, the prior, and the monks of Coldingham, "duas loftos ad Eimuthe et unum ad Leth honorifice, &c. reddendo annualem sibi et heredibus iij. teises de laceo sericeo."

tions, in which its inhabitants engaged, were the receiving and passing to Coldingham those supplies which were required, either for the support of its numerous inmates, or for the performance of the rites of their pompous and imposing worship. One of these notices occurs so early as the fourteenth century, and shows that shipping even at that early period, had resorted to the harbour to such an extent as to encourage the demand of anchorage dues on the part of the lord of the manor. It is in these terms, “*Magna Placitatio, in curia de Eyton, pro duodecim denariis male receptis, per J. Kinkborn, nomine sedis unius navis, apud Eymouth.*”—*Ab. Chart. Coldingham, 22.*

Land-owners.—From the earliest notices extant, it would seem that nearly the whole of the lands in this, as well as a large portion of those in the neighbouring parish, belonged at one time to the Homes of Fastcastle. The last baronet of that name had two daughters, one of whom was married to Logan of Restalrig, the other to Ogilvie of Dunlugas; and charters in both of these names are found recorded. Sir Lawrence Scott seems to have been the next proprietor of the lands of Eyemouth, whose only daughter, Euphemia, was married to Mr George Winram, son of a Colonel Winram. Upon Mr Winram's failure, the estate was purchased by Mr Trotter of Mortonhall, who shortly afterwards (in 1764) sold it to the late Patrick Home, Esq. and in that family it has remained ever since. The late Mr Ninian Home, the father of the above Patrick Home, purchased the Linthill estate, (which, with the lands of Eyemouth, forms a very compact and valuable property,) from a Mr Alexander Home.*

The present proprietor of the Eyemouth estate is W. F. Home, Esq. of Billie, who resides at Paxton House, in the parish of Hutton. The other proprietors in the parish are, David Renton, Esq. of Highlaws; John Fowler, Esq. of Hallydown; Colonel Logan; Rev. John Edgar; the Friendly Society; Mr W. A. Gillie; Captain Brown; Mr J. Purves; Mr A. Robertson; Mr R. Turnbull; Mr W. Purves; Mrs Wightman and Miss Fore-

* The mansion-house of Linthill, which is pleasantly situated on the banks of the Ale, near its junction with the Eye, was, after the death of Patrick Home, the scene of a remarkable tragedy, his widow having been barbarously murdered there by her servant, Norman Ross, about the year 1752. He had concealed himself under her bed, whence he sallied forth upon her at dead of night. After a severe struggle, during which he inflicted several dreadful wounds upon her with a case knife, with which he was armed, she contrived to reach the bell-rope and alarm the family; upon which he leaped from the window, and escaped. A few days afterwards, he was found by some reapers in the adjoining field, having broken his leg in the fall. He was tried before the High Court of Justiciary at Edinburgh, and condemned to be executed, and his body to be hung in chains.

man. Their lands, however, are but of limited extent, only two of them being proprietors to the amount of L. 50 per annum. *

Although not connected with the parish in any other way, it may not be uninteresting to mention, that the famous Duke of Marlborough was created Baron of Eyemouth by William III.; but the title, being limited to heirs-male, is now extinct. †

Parochial Registers.—No parochial registers or sessional records exist in this parish dated previous to 1709. In a minute of kirk-session, dated 26th April 1716, the following statement occurs: “Mr Johnston represented that the minuts of the session in his custody, from the year 1713 to the year 1716, were taken away by the violence of the time.” From 1730, the entries in the registers of marriages, and of births and baptisms, are regular. Dissenters, however, do not generally register the names of their children.

Antiquities.—Under the head of antiquities, we have only to mention the remains of a fortification upon the bold promontory to the north of the town, thence, in common parlance, called the Fort. It occupies the whole of the elevated ground, which is of a triangular shape, the apex of the triangle pointing to the sea. It was first erected by the Duke of Somerset in his famous expedition against Scotland in 1547, ‡ and was shortly after demo-

* As illustrative of the dependence of this town on the fisheries in former times, as well as latterly, it may be mentioned, that before the division of the runrig lands, there were several portions which were termed Fishers' Lands. Some of these were possessed by individual fishermen, others were held by a particular tenure, being the common property of a boat's crew.

† Notoriety of a very different kind belongs to Sprut, a lawyer, who, if not a native of the parish, at least practised as a writer in Eyemouth for many years. He was the professional agent of Logan of Restalrig and Fastcastle; and, shortly after the time of the Gowrie conspiracy, had let fall some hints which implied an acquaintance with that mysterious affair. “These rumours, getting into circulation, reached the Privy-Council, who ordered Sprut to be apprehended in the month of April 1608. When examined before the Council, and by torture, he persisted for about two months in denying the fact, or in contradictory statements, to which no credit was given; at last he confessed that Logan was concerned in the conspiracy with Gowrie, and that a correspondence had been carried on between them by means of Bar, a confidential servant of Logan's, who had inadvertently communicated the secret to him, and had shown him some of the letters from the conspirators, two of which he had purloined, one from Gowrie and another from Logan, which the Earl had returned after having read: Sprut was tried and convicted upon his own confession, and hanged the same day he was convicted. The judges appear to have doubted the truth of his tale, and seem to have hanged the unfortunate notary in a hurry, because they did not believe he was guilty, and were afraid of losing his evidence in support of a conspiracy for which the king's credit was pledged.”—Aikman's History of Scotland, Vol. iii. page 262.

‡ The Protector, on the second day after his arrival at Berwick, escorted by his own band of horsemen and a few more, rode to Eyemouth, where, having examined the inlet by which the small river Eye discharges itself into the sea, he found it would be a commodious place for a harbour; and, soon after, ordered a fortress, for defending its entrance, to be built on a promontory on its north side. Of this fortress, he appointed Thomas Gower, marshal of Berwick, to be governor.—Redpath's Border History, page 560.

lished in terms of a treaty concluded at Boulogne between France and England, 24th March 1550. A few years after, Regent Mary, wishing to involve Scotland in the war then raging between France and England, ordered D'Oysel, her general, to rebuild these fortifications; who, though much harassed by the garrison of Berwick, succeeded in again putting the place into a state of defence. At the subsequent peace, however, it was a second time demolished; and the next reign, which witnessed the union of the two kingdoms, deprived it of its importance as a border fortress, and prevented all attempts at its re-erection. From the circumstances just mentioned, the remains of the walls are very scanty: the outline of the fortifications, however, as indicated by the large grass-covered mounds, is everywhere observable, and shows it to have been a place of some strength. Being considerably elevated above the town, and commanding a good sea view, the Fort is a favourite walk of the inhabitants, and is much frequented by the youth of the parish when engaged in their various sports.*

Modern Buildings.—There are no buildings worthy of particular notice in the parish, the old Manor House of Linthill only excepted. It is a good specimen of that kind of architecture so happily described by the author of *Discipline and Self-Control*, as characterizing the residences of the minor Scottish lairds, and, with its steep roofs and peaked and crowstepped gables, forms not an unpleasant feature in the landscape. The view from it is pleasing, embracing Captain Brown's villa of Netherbyres and its surrounding woods, Gunsgreen House, and the shipping in the harbour of Eyemouth, with the sea in the distance. In the town of Eyemouth are many good dwelling-houses, but none entitled to particular attention. In Chambers' *Picture of Scotland*, it is observed, "that at one time all the people, high and low, young and old, rich and poor, were more or less engaged in smuggling, and no house was built without a view to accommodations for contraband goods. The whole town has still a dark cunning look, is full of curious alleys, blind and otherwise, and there is not a single individual house of any standing but what seems as if it could unfold its tales of wonder." There is no doubt that, during the greater part of last century, the contraband trade was pursued to

* In the immediate neighbourhood of the Fort, there is a field called the Bare-foots, said to have been the scene of a battle in which the Scots, having been surprised in their beds, and not having time to put on their shoes, fought with bare feet and yet gained a decisive victory.

a considerable extent by the inhabitants of Eyemouth; but it is proper to add, that that illegal and, generally speaking, unsuccessful traffic has, for many years past, been entirely relinquished by them; and that their wealth, if less than in former times, has at least been acquired in a more regular and creditable manner.

III.—POPULATION.

1. In 1755, the population of this parish was	-	792	
1791,	-	930	
1801,	-	899	
1821,	-	1165	
1831,	(males 542, females 639,)	1181	
In 1831, males residing in the town,	504,	Females,	602
in the country,	38,		37
	in the parish,	542,	639
2. The average number of births yearly for the last seven years,	-	-	30
of marriages,	-	-	6
of deaths,	-	-	20
3. Insane and fatuous,	-	-	4
4. Persons under 15 years of age,	-	-	426
between 15 and 30,	-	-	296
30 and 50,	-	-	272
50 and 70,	-	-	152
upwards of 70,	-	-	55
5. Inhabited houses in 1831,	-	207	
Uninhabited houses,	-	7	
Houses building,	-	1	
Total number of houses in the parish,	-	215	
6. Families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	26
in trade,	-	-	89
in neither of the above,	-	-	167
Total number of families in the parish,	-	-	282

The average number of children in each family is about four.

From the preceding statement, it will be seen that the population of this parish, for a number of years past, has been steadily on the increase. If any specific cause be required for the small amount of that increase within the last twelve or fifteen years, the only one which can be assigned is, that within that period, a large portion of the lands in the neighbourhood of the town, which was formerly let as one farm, has been divided into ten or twelve small possessions, and that the number of individuals, partly employed in agriculture, has, by that means, been increased to a trifling extent.

The number of illegitimate births in the parish during the last three years was two.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The parish of Eyemouth contains about 850 statute acres, and is all in a state of cultivation, with the exception of about 10 or 12 acres of banks. One-half is managed after what is called the four, and the other half after the six-break system of husbandry.

Rent of Land, &c.—The average rent of arable land in the parish is L. 3, 10s. The duration of the leases is in some cases twelve, and in others nineteen years, the principal farm being let on a lease of twenty-one years. The lands are all in the highest state of cultivation, and, as may be inferred from the rent named, they are of the first quality. The sheep and cattle kept are commonly of the Leicester and short-horned or Teeswater breed. They are generally bought in to be fed on grass or turnips, very few being bred in the parish.

Rate of Labour.—The rate of labour is for men during summer, 1s. 8d. per day; and for women, 1s.; and during winter for men, 1s. 6d.; and for women, 10d. Joiners and masons are paid from 3s. to 3s. 6d. a-day in summer, and 2s. 6d. a-day in winter.

Produce.—The gross annual value of produce, on an average of the last five years, may be stated as follows: viz.

Acres.					
Wheat,	158;	30 imp. bushels per acre, at 6s. 10d.	L. 1619 10 0		
		Straw, at L. 1, 15s. per acre,	- 270 10 0		
				L. 1890	0 0
Barley,	87;	42 imp. bushels per acre, at 3s. 9d.	675 2 6		
		Straw, at L. 1, 5s. per acre,	- 108 15 0		
				783	17 6
Oats,	175;	48 imp. bushels per acre, at 2s. 10d.	1190 0 0		
		Straw, at L. 1, 10s. per acre,	- 262 10 0		
				1452	10 0
Beans,	60;	36 imp. bushels per acre, at 4s. 2d.	450 0 0		
		Straw, at L. 2, 5s. per acre,	- 135 0 0		
				585	0 0
Potatoes,	60;	10 tons, at L. 1, 5s. per ton,	- - -	725	0 0
Turnips,	105,	eaten on the ground or carted, at L. 5 per acre,	- - -	525	0 0
Hay,	55,	each yielding 360 imp. stones, at 4d. per stone,	- - -	330	0 0
Pasture,	132,	grazed by cows at L. 4, or by sheep at 8s. 8d. each,	- - -	528	0 0
Garden produce,	-	-	-	120	0 0
Total yearly value of raw produce,			-	L. 6939	7 6

Fisheries.—It is exceedingly difficult to state the annual value of the fisheries in the parish, as it is necessarily very fluctuating. The cod and haddock fishery is prosecuted by nine boats, each of which is manned by six men; the yearly produce of whose labour, in this department, may be stated at L. 1890. The herring fishery has also at various periods been very productive; from 1809 to 1820, not less than 10,000 barrels being brought into Eyemouth yearly. * Upon these occasions, from 100 to 150 boats assembled at Eyemouth, and few sights more gratifying could be witnessed, than that of the little fleet setting sail on a fine summer evening, to take up their stations on the fishing ground, or returning at break of day, loaded with the treasures of the deep. Since 1820

* During these years, the prices of fresh herrings ranged between 10s. and 15s. per barrel: cured herrings brought from L. 1, 5s. to L. 1, 12s., according to quality.

this fishing has been on the decline ; and, for some years past, even the boats belonging to Eyemouth have not remained on this coast, but proceeded to Sunderland, Wick, &c. to prosecute the fishing. By this change much injury has been done to the trade of the port of Eyemouth ; many valuable properties erected for the purpose of curing herrings have been rendered for a season altogether useless ; and much lucrative employment has been lost to the poor of the town and neighbourhood. By the introduction of barilla at a low duty, the manufacture of kelp, which formerly afforded employment to a number of our poor people, has been also destroyed.

Newcastle, Hull, and London, are the ports generally resorted to for the sale of smoked or red herrings ; white herrings are commonly sent to Ireland, the Baltic, or the West Indies. The produce of the cod fishery is exported to London either in a dried or pickled state.

Navigation.—The following is a statement of the trade and shipping of Eyemouth for the last two years.

Vessels of all descriptions which arrived and sailed in 1833, 201 ; in 1834, 198. Vessels with cargoes coast-wise in 1833, arrived 84, sailed 74 ; ditto in 1834, arrived 100, sailed 69 ; ditto from foreign ports, 1833, arrived 9, sailed 0 ; ditto in 1834, arrived 11, sailed 0.

The cargoes from foreign ports consist of timber, bones and rags ; those inwards coastwise, chiefly of coals, slates, bricks, and tiles, free and paving stones, and merchant goods.

The quantity of coals imported in 1833, was 1935 tons 16 cwts. in 1834, 2367 tons 14 cwts.

The cargoes outwards coastwise consist principally of grain, meal, flour, malt, and British spirits.

Wheat exported in 1833,	2440 qrs.	5 bushels ;	in 1834,	859 qrs.	1 bushel,
Barley,	2309	3		4274	5
Oats,	2293	0		2716	1
Rye,	39	4		30	0
Pease,	115	6		118	2
Beans,	245	6		310	0
Flour,	144 sacks,			82 sacks,	
Oat-meal,	38 bags,				
Pearl barley,	113			28 bags,	
Malt,				89 quarters,	
British spirits,	222 gallons,			2758½ gallons.	

In the former Statistical Account it is stated, “ this port is a branch of the custom-house of Dunbar, and our merchants are obliged to go there, which is a distance of twenty miles, to report every cargo, and to get sufferances to load or unload, and thereafter to go back again for cockets and clearances, which is attend-

ed with much dangerous delay, and no small expense." This grievance is now remedied, the principal officer of the customs here being empowered to enter and clear all vessels, except those to and from foreign ports.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns, &c.—Eyemouth, the only town in the parish, and, it may be added, the only sea-port in the county of Berwick, is also the market-town of the surrounding district. As may be seen by referring to the former Statistical Account, grain to a considerable extent has, for many years past, been shipped here,—but the trade in corn, like that in herrings, having seriously declined, it was proposed by several persons interested in the prosperity of the place, to establish a weekly stock-market for that article. At a meeting of farmers and dealers in grain, convened here in the beginning of January 1832, it was resolved that the market should be held weekly on Thursday; and it is no slight proof of the propriety of this resolution, and of the benefit conferred by the market, both on Eyemouth, and on the surrounding district, that, during the first twelve months of its existence, grain to the value of L. 20,000 was sold in it. Considerable facilities were afforded for its establishment by the fact, that Eyemouth possessed an excellent harbour, and that the port charges were exceedingly moderate.

The revival of the corn trade has led to the erection of spacious granaries upon the quay within these two years, and a large building at the north end of the town, which was used during the late war as a barrack for soldiers, and near which a battery was erected for the protection of the town and harbour, has also been employed of late for the storing of grain. To the same cause we are also indebted for the recent establishment of a branch of the Commercial Bank.

When not engaged in the cultivation of their lands, the smaller tenants, who all reside in the Town of Eyemouth, are generally employed in supplying the Edinburgh and Glasgow markets with fish; and in winter, when tempted by the prospect of high prices, instances are not unfrequent of their finding their way even to Dumfries and Carlisle. As the Coldingham and Burnmouth boats generally rendezvous at Eyemouth, these land carriers are unable to transport the whole produce of the fishery to market; a considerable part of it is, in consequence, sent by sea to Newhaven and Port-Dundas. Eyemouth is a burgh of barony. Mr Home of Billie is the superior.

Harbour.—"The harbour of Eyemouth," says the celebrated

Smeaton, "lies at the corner of a bay, in which ships can work in and out at all times of the tide, or lie at an anchor secure from all winds, except the northerly or north-easterly. From this circumstance, its situation is very advantageous." At his recommendation, and agreeably to a plan furnished by him, a break-water pier was erected in 1770, by which the harbour is defended from the north-east gales, to which it was previously exposed; and since that time, by the clearing away of rocks, removing of shingle, erecting of wharf walls, &c. the depth of water has been much increased, and the accommodation for shipping considerably enlarged. The flow of tide is nearly the same as at the other harbours on the coast, averaging 10 feet at neap tides, and 16 feet at spring tides. Being situated at the entrance of the Firth of Forth, and easily accessible, it is much frequented by vessels prevented by contrary winds from prosecuting their voyages to the several parts within its limits, as also to those in the north of Scotland; and there can be no doubt that every improvement effected upon it will increase the resort of such vessels, and thus afford additional accommodation to the trade of the country, and give increased security both to property and life. It is under the management of a board of trustees appointed by act of Parliament.

Water was brought into Eyemouth some years ago, by means of iron pipes; and the streets, which at that time were by no means in good repair, have all been recently re-paved.

Thrashing-Machines, &c.—There are two thrashing-machines driven by water in the parish, and in the same building that contains one of them there is also machinery for sawing timber from the log, grinding bark, &c. There is a mill upon the river Eye, which is generally employed in manufacturing pearl barley, oatmeal, &c. for the London market. At Millbank, *just without the limits of the parish*, there is a paper-mill, at which a number of our labouring-people find employment, and for which the supplies of coals, rags, &c. are imported here; and Gunsgreen distillery, at which business to a very considerable amount is done annually, may also claim a notice from us, as it immediately adjoins the harbour of Eyemouth; and, both as to imports and exports, it is closely connected with this place.

Means of Communication.—Eyemouth enjoys the advantage of a daily post, the office here being a sub-office to that at Ayton (two miles and a-half distant) through which the great London road passes. A runner is employed, who conveys the letters both to

this Town and to Coldingham. The hour of departure is 8 A. M., of arrival 2 P. M. In no part of the country have roads been more improved than in the county of Berwick, during the last twenty years, and Eyemouth has received its share of the advantage connected with these improvements; access from this to all parts of the country being now rendered both easy and safe. About four miles of road lie within the parish; two miles and three quarters of which are parochial, and the remainder turnpike road. At Eyemouth Bridge the turnpike road divides into two branches, one of which connects this parish with Ayton, Dunse, &c. by the north bank of the Eye, and the other by the south; both are maintained in good order, and the bridges, which respectively cross the Eye and the Ale, are substantial and in good condition. It may be added, that Captain Brown has very lately thrown a chain bridge across the Eye to afford an access to his property of Netherbyres.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church stands in the middle of the Town, and, though distant a mile and a-half from the extremities of the parish, yet, as so small a part of the population, only 75, resides in the country, it must be said to be conveniently situated. It was built in 1812, and affords accommodation for about 450 sitters. We cannot say much of the taste which its external appearance indicates; but we may add, that it is one of the most comfortable places of worship in this part of the country.* It was built at the expense of the heritors and feuars of the parish, and the sittings were allotted among them; but a large proportion, say 150 sittings, belonging to the principal proprietor, and which were not required for the accommodation of his tenants, are left quite free to the poorer part of the population. The ordinance of the Lord's supper is dispensed here twice a-year, and is attended by from 300 to 320 communicants. Public worship is in general respectably attended, yet it must be added, that here, as in other places similarly situated, there are not a few "who forsake the assembling of themselves together."

The number of families attending the Established church may be stated at 250; those attending the chapels of Dissenters and Seceders at 30. These go to Coldingham and Ayton, at which villages there are meeting-houses connected with the Associate Synod. There is a Baptist chapel in the town, which is not attended by more than four or five members.

Collections are made in church occasionally for charitable and re-

* A new school and schoolmaster's house were also built in 1821.

ligious purposes, the average amount of which may be stated at L. 5 per annum.

The victual stipend of the parish of Eyemouth is $80\frac{2}{3}$ imperial bolls of barley, (the boll being $\frac{3}{4}$ of an imperial quarter,) $54\frac{3}{8}$ bolls of oats, and $18\frac{9}{8}$ of pease which, according to the average of the last five years, amounts to about L. 150. There is no allowance for communion elements. The teinds are exhausted. The fishing boats belonging to Eyemouth pay each L. 1, 13s. 4d. annually to the clergyman, and strangers are liable to pay half teind, or a twentieth part of the produce of their fishing. This may be collected to the extent of a thirtieth or less, and, in seasons when the herring fishery was in a prosperous state, added considerably to the value of the living.

The manse is old and in bad repair, but is not inhabited by the present incumbent, who in lieu of it has an allowance of L. 30 per annum from the heritors. It ought to be mentioned, however, that the heritors are perfectly willing to build a new manse when required.

- The glebe extends to ten acres or thereby, and may be valued at L. 30 per annum.*

Education.—The number of schools in the parish is seven ; three of which are taught by men, and four by women. The parish schoolmaster has the maximum salary, and the legal accommodation. One of the private schools is maintained by individual subscriptions, and the other by school fees. In the parish school Greek, Latin, English, &c. are taught. The fee for English reading is 2s. 6d. per quarter, for writing, 3s. 6d. for arith-

* Eyemouth does not seem to have ranked as a separate parish till the period of the Reformation ; previous to that era it was a chapelry dependent on the priory of Coldingham ; and this fact, taken in connection with its very limited extent, may account for the very slight notices of it which are contained in the chartularies of that ancient establishment. Mr Alexander A. Carr, surgeon, Ayton, who is about to publish a work on the Antiquities of Coldinghamshire, has favoured me with the following notice concerning the ecclesiastical state of this parish in former times.—“ In 1295, Gilbert, the priest (presbyter) of Eimuth, subscribed a charter granted by William, Bishop of St Andrews, to the monks of Durham, &c. ; and from that time down to the Reformation, the names of its chaplains are occasionally met with in the chartularies. During the fourteenth century, one of these rose to be Sacrist of Coldingham priory, an office next in rank to that of prior.”

The following notice, also furnished by him, may not inappropriately find a place here.—“ A rental of Coldingham, made up in 1501, which is preserved in the Advocates' Library at Edinburgh, gives us a summary of the various ecclesiastical dues paid to it by the neighbouring parishes. From this it appears that the town of Eyemouth paid yearly, (conjointly with a piece of land called Blackman's or Blackmain's acre,) 42 shillings, 3 pennies, and 74 heads of poultry. The lands of Beanrig, held in feu-farm by Sir Alexander Home of Manderstone, paid yearly 48 shillings and 4 pennies, with 7 fowls. The mill of Eyemouth, held by William Home of Prendergust, contributed L. 6. Somehow or other the lands of Linthill are not rated in the rental, unless they are taken conjointly with those of Highlaws, which paid 43 shillings and 4 pennies.”

metic, including practical mathematics, navigation, and other branches, 5s. for Latin, French, &c. 7s. 6d., and for Greek, 10s. 6d.: when English grammar is added to any of the preceding, 6d. extra is charged quarterly. The amount of fees received by the teacher of the parish school varies from L. 25 to L. 30 a-year. In one of the private schools the same branches of education are taught as in the parish school, and the fees, it is believed, are somewhat similar to those mentioned; in the other, English reading, writing, and arithmetic only are taught. In the female schools, sewing, reading, &c. are taught. Not above two or three individuals are known to the writer who are not able to read, and these are persons somewhat advanced in life. Among the young such a thing can now scarcely happen; as, independently of the moderate sum charged for instruction, the heritors, for many years past, have been in the habit of paying the fees of those who, from poverty or other causes, are thought entitled to that accommodation. A religious society in the town also expends its funds in the education of the children of poor fishermen. In general, it may be stated that the people are anxious to obtain education for their children, and that the facilities for that purpose now enjoyed have had their usual effects in the improvement of the manners and general good conduct of the parishioners. Two Sabbath schools are also taught in the town; one in the church by the minister, parochial schoolmaster, and other assistants; the other by one of the private teachers.

At the examinations in March last, the number of scholars attending all the schools in the parish was 191.

Literature.—A parochial library, consisting chiefly of books of divinity, history, biography, &c. was established by general subscription in the year 1821. The funds were increased by a very handsome donation of L. 10 from George Buchan, Esq. of Kelloe, and since that period a collection has been made in church at least once a-year for its benefit. From these causes it is now in a prosperous condition. The yearly subscription is two shillings.

Charitable Institutions.—A Friendly Society was established in this parish in the year 1759; and, with varying prosperity, it has existed ever since. Like many institutions of the same nature, being founded on erroneous principles, it was, a few years ago, brought to the brink of ruin. At that period, however, the annual subscriptions of its members were increased, and the allowances to sick were diminished, in accordance with the tables published by the Highland Society; and it is now once more in a safe

and prosperous condition. It has an income of L. 36 a-year from land situated within the parish, and of course ranks as an heritor. Such an institution must have a tendency to promote industry and to excite a desire for independence; yet the extreme readiness sometimes manifested, even in the case of trifling ailments, to take advantage of its provisions, shows that those feelings of independence are not so strong as they ought to be. The allowance given at the death of a member is L. 6, and to the poor widow and her destitute family it is a most seasonable and grateful relief. Perhaps the existence of such an institution in the parish may go far to account for the fact, that a savings bank, though twice tried here, has never succeeded. The nearest bank of that description is one established at Dunse.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of stated paupers on the roll last year was 35; and the sum raised by legal assessment for their support was L. 199, 16s. 10½d. The landward part of parish, which alone is rated, being small, this forms a heavy burden on the heritors and their tenants, and the experience of the last few years sufficiently shows that it is a burden progressively increasing. Assessments have produced their usual effects here in weakening the feeling of honest independence, which formerly so much characterized the people of Scotland; and, so far from there being now any aversion to apply for parochial relief, there is rather a disposition to demand it as a right.

The average of church collections may be stated to amount to L. 26 annually. These are distributed among the industrious poor by the minister and session, without any interference on the part of the heritors.

Fairs.—Two fairs are held annually in the parish, at which, however, no business is transacted.

Inns.—In the former Statistical Account, it is observed, “there are very few law pleas or disputes in this parish, because we have only one writer. There is one good inn, and too many alehouses.” With the latter part of the quotation the writer most cordially agrees. We have no fewer than 14 alehouses; and, as two or three would be amply sufficient for all the business transacted in the town, it may easily be supposed that the effect of such a number upon the morals of the people must be most pernicious.

Fuel.—Fuel is abundant and cheap in this parish, being procured by land carriage from Berwick at an average price of 9s. per ton; and from the Firth of Forth and Newcastle at average rates of 10s. and 12s. respectively.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the former Statistical Account was written, the rental of this parish has been more than doubled, the natural consequence of the improved management of the lands, and of the high prices obtained for all kinds of agricultural produce during the late war. Should prices, however, remain long at their present level, the rental must again decline, as the returns at present received by the farmer are far from being remunerating. During the last thirty years, the condition of the labouring part of our population has also been much improved. They are better fed and better dressed than formerly; and it is believed that, in respect of cleanliness, they may justly claim their full share in the improvement, in this respect, which is acknowledged to have taken place among the peasantry of Scotland. To no part of our population do these remarks apply with more accuracy than to our fishermen and their families. In every community the idle and the dissipated will be found; and the uncertainties of a sea-faring life seem unfortunately, in many instances, to give increased force to evil habits; yet, generally speaking, it may with safety be asserted, that they are a sober, industrious, and well-behaved set of men. They go to sea in boats of not less than nine tons register, (worth L. 80, including tackling and nets,) which are their own property; and, in place of creeping along the coast, as their fathers were accustomed to do, they launch boldly out into the deep, (proceeding sometimes to a distance of twenty miles from shore,) and bring in large cargoes of fish of the best quality, to supply the markets of the country. Formerly, very few of them were in the habit of attending public worship; the greater part of them now attend it with tolerable regularity; and the young amongst them present themselves as candidates for admission to the Lord's table in nearly the same proportion, to their entire number, as is found to exist among the other classes of the community.

Our streets are better paved and better kept than formerly; yet further improvement is still needed, and were the inhabitants to avail themselves of the provisions of an act of Parliament lately passed, to enable small towns like Eyemouth to maintain an effective police, &c. that improvement, it is believed, might be effected. It has been mentioned, that the roads leading from this place to all parts of the country are good. A bridge over the Whitadder, somewhere between Chirnside and Hutton, would tend much to improve our access to Tweedside, and to insure the prosperity of the corn market lately established here.

January 1835.

PARISH OF MORDINGTON.

PRESBYTERY OF CHIRNSIDE, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODDALE.

THE REV. GEORGE FULTON KNIGHT, A. M. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Boundaries, Extent, &c.—THIS parish is situated in the south-east corner of the county of Berwick. It is bounded on the north by the parish of Ayton; on the east, by the German Ocean, and the liberties of the town of Berwick on Tweed; on the south, by the river Whitadder; and on the west, by the parishes of Hutton and Foulden. Its form is irregular, somewhat resembling a sand-glass, or the letter g,—on the narrow part of which stand the church and manse; the parish is there only the breadth of the glebe. Its length from north to south is between 3 and 4 miles; its greatest breadth, which is towards the northern extremity, is above 2 miles. Its original extent was very small, consisting only of the barony of Mordington and the estate of Edrington, till the year 1650, when the lands of Lamberton (of much greater extent than the whole of what, before that period, constituted the parish) were disjoined from the parish of Ayton, and annexed to Mordington. In the year 1666, Mordington was disjoined from part of what is now the parish of Longformacus,—when the latter, together with other lands from surrounding parishes, was erected into a new parish.

Topographical Appearances.—The north part of the parish consists of high ground, containing many commanding eminences,—from which is obtained an extensive and splendid prospect of the Merse of Berwickshire, and the wooded and picturesque banks of the Tweed, Whitadder, and Blackadder, together with a considerable part of the county of Northumberland,—while the view is terminated on the south by the bold and lofty range of Cheviot; and on the west, by Ruberslaw, the Eildons, and the Lammermuirs. Toward the east, this highest part of the parish commands a view of the German Ocean, Holy Island, Bamborough Castle, &c. At the extreme north-west of this high ground, there are the remains of a camp

most distinctly and broadly marked, which, from its circular form, seems to be Danish. The hill on which it stands is called Hab or Habchester. The remains of this camp consist of two trenches, 18 or 20 feet high, which seem to have been faced with stones. Half of the circle remains entire, which half is in Mordington parish, and in which it would seem no change has taken place since its construction. The form of the other half, lying in the parish of Ayton, is scarcely discernible, having been ploughed down. No station could have been better selected for observing the movements of an enemy, and for keeping up a communication with the German Ocean, which is not more than a mile distant from it.* Another eminence, about a mile south-east of Habchester, is the spot where the last person burned for witchcraft is alleged to have undergone that fate,—so late as the beginning of the seventeenth century. It is still called the *Witch's Knowe*.

The ground falls by a gentle and gradual descent from this place towards the south, for more than half the length of the parish, till it reaches the river Whitadder, its southern boundary. On the east, it descends towards the sea. The coast of the parish exhibits a continued unbroken line of abrupt rocks, which contain some caverns that were much used by smugglers in foreign spirits, before the erection of a Preventive station at Burnmouth. Detached masses of rock of considerable size stand out into the sea in one or two places, and some of them present an aspect of grandeur and sublimity. The romantic and sequestered fishing village of Ross, at the northern extremity of the parish, is too much an object of interest to the admirers of picturesque scenery not to be noticed. It stands at the foot of a ledge of almost perpendicular rocks divided by a rivulet, which, in rainy seasons, forms many beautiful cascades,—while the sea foam beneath, and the cottages standing almost close upon high water mark, give the scene a very striking appearance.

Climate.—The climate of this parish is generally salubrious. The prevailing winds are west and south, which are frequently violent. The east winds on the coast are cold; but the inhabitants are generally healthy and robust. Among the labouring classes, rheumatism is the most common complaint: there are no distempers, however, peculiar to the district.

Hydrography.—The Whitadder is the only river in the parish, and forms its southern boundary; its many windings and precipi-

* Of this camp, further notice is taken in the Account of the parish of Ayton.

tous banks, clad with wood and moss-covered rocks, possess great beauty.

Geology and Mineralogy.—There are two divisions of rocks in the parish, the upper and the under. The upper consists of a large mass of unstratified rocks, the principal of which are porphyry and trap. The lower consists of stratified rocks, which appear along the sea coast on the north-east, and also on the banks of the Whitadder on the south. Although there has been considerable dispute of late years among geologists about what these last are, it is now generally agreed that they are the *lower members* of the coal formation, or the carboniferous series. The strata, as seen in the ravines and river sides of the lower parts of the parish, consist of numerous alternating beds or strata of shale, sandstone, and indurated marl. The general direction of these strata seems to be from west to east, the dip generally at a considerable angle, but so various, that it is impossible to state the general angle. Beyond the boundaries of the parish to the south, these rocks are succeeded by the coal field of Northumberland.

As a circumstance tending to confirm the conclusion, that the lower division of the parish belongs to the old coal formation, and not to the new red sandstone, as has been supposed by several geologists, we may mention the fact, that *coal does make its appearance* at several places near the sea coast of the parish,—that various attempts have been made to work it,—and that, from its importance, the present proprietor has lately made several investigations with the view of working it.

Some old pits and mines have been cleared, which are believed to have been wrought half a century ago, and by which two workable seams of coal have been discovered, an upper and an under; the former 13 inches thick, and of good quality; the latter 26. It is stated by fishermen, that a third much lower and thicker is to be seen at very low tides. The proprietor has not yet completed his investigations, but, from the great depth of the coal, except when approached below the coast rocks, and near high water-mark, the working of it would seem likely to be attended with some difficulty. Lime in considerable quantity has been found in the vicinity of the coal, but it is of an inferior quality.

On this coast, a mile or two south-east of the village of Ross, the sandstone strata are *nearly vertical*,—which, indeed, we may naturally expect from their vicinity to the trap rocks. In other

parts of the parish, it is impossible to perceive the junction of the trap and the sandstone, on account of the thick covering of soil.

It may be mentioned, that in the strata of shale and indurated marl below Edrington House, a few *vegetable fossils* have been found.

Zoology.—There are no animals, wild or tame, peculiar to the parish. The rarer wild animals are, otters on the banks of the Whitadder, wild ducks on the high grounds, and herons. Foxes abound in the lower parts of the parish on the Edrington estate, and badgers are met with among the sea rocks. The common kinds of game, as hare, partridge, black-cock, dotterel, and woodcock, are plentiful. These last are sometimes found in the early part of the season, weak and exhausted, probably by their long flight across the German Ocean. Brown and silver pheasants are occasionally found in the woods of Edrington.

This coast has long been famed for white fish, every variety of which is to be found on it, and is sent chiefly to the Edinburgh market by sea. Cod, ling, and haddock are the most common kinds. Salmon are also found on the coast, and have been fished with bag-nets. There are no oysters nor muscles; but lobsters and crabs are plentiful; the former are sold chiefly for the London market to smacks which pass the coast at stated intervals. The Whitadder contains trout and salmon, which ascend the river in spawning time.

Botany.—For the more common plants in this as in the adjoining parishes, the reader is referred to the “Flora of Berwick-on-Tweed,” by Dr Johnston. The following habitats of some rarer plants additional to those given in the Flora may be mentioned; *Pedia olitoria*, found by Mr Carr, surgeon, Ayton, in the ravine above Ross: *Parietaria officinalis*, on the side of the old aisle of the former church, in front of Mordington House, by the same: *Rosa rubiginosa*, on the sea banks half way between Ross and Lamberton Sheills, a single shrub, but perfectly wild, by Dr Johnston: *Senecio tenuifolius*, in the lane between Edrington and Cocklaw.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—The church or chapel of Lamberton, which was either at one time a parish church, or, as seems more probable, a chapel of ease to Ayton, and an adjunct of the Abbey of Coldingham, is celebrated as having been the place where King

* Dr Johnston, although very extensively employed as a medical practitioner, finds leisure to cultivate, and with eminent success, several departments of natural history.

James IV. of Scotland, and Margaret, daughter of Henry VII. of England, were contracted in marriage in the year 1503,—which paved the way for the happy union, first of the two crowns, and afterwards of the two kingdoms. This chapel has now nothing remaining but part of the outer walls, and is used as the burying-place of the family of Mr Renton of Lamberton.

The old castle of Edrington, of which but a small part also has escaped the mutilating hand of time, is situated at the south of the parish, on the top of an almost perpendicular rock, which is clad with wood, and washed by the winding Whitadder below. Like many of the old forts in this neighbourhood, it was the scene of frequent contests in the border wars. Its possession was often included in treaties between the kings of England and Scotland. In the year 1534, it was restored by Henry VIII. to James V., from the latter of whom it had been taken in a former war,—Henry declaring that he made this restitution as a proof of his gratitude, benevolence, and friendship for the Scottish king. The possession of this castle, and the lands connected with it, was thus confirmed to the King of Scotland and his subjects, its former owners, free from molestation or injury on the part of the King of England, his vassals, or subjects, or the inhabitants of the town and castle of Berwick-on-Tweed; and it probably continued in this situation till the union of the two kingdoms. From its commanding situation, it seems to have been singularly well fitted for defence, especially from the south, and was likely to have been regarded by the English as an important out-post when they were in possession of the town of Berwick.*

Eminent Men.—Under this head there is nothing to be mentioned,—except that the Rev. Alexander Lauder, who wrote a work against Episcopacy, and lived in the beginning of last century, was minister of this parish.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755, the population was only	-	181
In 1792, it had increased to	-	335
By the census of 1821, it was	-	302
of 1831,	-	301

* It is worthy of notice, that below this castle, and close by the bank of the river, there is a flour-mill belonging to the proprietor of this part of the estate, the water-wheel of which not only drives the mill, but also a thrashing-machine, situated upwards of 500 feet above it, by means of a shaft 600 feet long, which runs through a tunnel in the rock above. This is an instance of the distance to which the powers of machinery may be transferred by the application of very simple means.

On the estate of Upper Edrington there is a sequestered glen, which is said to have given rise to the old Scottish song of "Tibby Fowler o' the Glen."

This decrease in the population since 1792 is chiefly to be ascribed to the union of small farms, and the consequent diminution in the number of farm-servants.

1. Yearly average of births,	-	-	-	-	6
marriages,	-	-	-	-	1
deaths,	-	-	-	-	4
2. Average number of persons under 15 years of age	-	-	-	-	120
between 15 and 30,	-	-	-	-	54
30 and 50,	-	-	-	-	85
50 and 70,	-	-	-	-	32
above 70,	-	-	-	-	10
3. Number of unmarried men, bachelors, and widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	-	7
of unmarried women, and widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	-	-	10
4. Average number of children in each family,	-	-	-	-	6
5. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	59
of inhabited houses,	-	-	-	-	59
of uninhabited,	-	-	-	-	5

It may be noticed, as an instance of the longevity of fishermen, that there is at present a boat's crew of four men belonging to the villages of Ross and Burnmouth, whose united ages amount to 301 years. Though no longer able for the rougher toils of their mode of life, they employ themselves in lobster-catching.

Character of the People.—The inhabitants of this parish are in general frugal and industrious, orderly in their habits, and contented with their condition. They present an illustration of the high superiority of the purely agricultural districts over the manufacturing, in regard to the general character of the population. No inhabitant of the parish has been convicted of a crime before a court of justice in the memory of man.

As this parish lies on the border between Scotland and England, the illicit traffic of smuggling Scotch whisky into England is carried on to a considerable extent at two public-houses on the turnpike-roads to Berwick-on-Tweed. Those who engage, however, in this unlawful employment, are persons of low character from Berwick, who buy the spirits at these two public-houses, and convey them secretly into England. A guard of excise officers, which is maintained by Government at considerable expense, traverses the roads,—by which means the traffic has lately somewhat decreased, but it is still carried on to a considerable extent; and its demoralizing influence on those engaged in it, is lamentably apparent. No remedy, however, seems likely to avail, but an equalizing of the duties on spirits in the two countries.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

This parish may be regarded as exclusively agricultural; for, with the exception of the small fishing village of Ross, it is entire-

ly devoted to the occupation of husbandry. There are 40 males employed in agriculture, 6 in handicrafts, 14 are engaged in fisheries, and there are at present 4 superannuated labourers.

Agriculture.—The parish contains 2597 acres of cultivated land, 26 acres in plantations, and 900 acres uncultivated; these last are part of the lands of Lamberton, which, though generally spoken of as “muir land,” consist to a very great extent of most profitable pasture ground; and a considerable part of it was forty years ago under the plough. Since that period, this land has been in permanent pasture, consisting of dry uplands. This forms about three-fourths of the whole of the land on the farm of Lamberton not at present cultivated. The remainder consists of boggy or marshy grounds, and about 100 acres of heath land; which, from its rocky barren nature, seems to be the only soil in the parish which it would be impossible to cultivate to advantage. At present, owing to the extremely low price of grain, and from the uncultivated ground rearing such good and healthy stock, the price of which is unusually high, it is deemed unadvisable to plough any part of it; but, should a period arrive, when, from a change in the state of markets, it might be considered advantageous to improve this land, the whole might be again made arable at very little expense.

It is supposed that 800 acres might, with a profitable application of capital, be added to the cultivated land of the parish.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land in the parish is L. 1, 5s. per acre. Cows are grazed at L. 5 for the season.

Wages of Labour.—Labourer’s wages are the same as in all the neighbouring parishes, viz. 10s. in summer per week, and 9s. in winter; artisans 2s. 6d. per day. The practice prevails here, as in neighbouring parishes, of having farm work performed by what is called *bondage* service. Farm-servants, called *hinds*, are paid, as in other parishes, partly in grain, and partly in money. Their general allowance is, of oats, 9 bolls, of six imperial bushels; of barley 3 ditto of ditto; pease 1, ditto of ditto; an allowance of L. 4 Sterling, which among them is called *sheep-money*, in lieu of a small number of sheep they formerly were permitted to keep; and a cow’s grass, with aliment for the cow in winter. There is thus secured to themselves and their families a fixed supply of the necessary articles of subsistence, whatever may be the state of the market. This mode of paying farm-servants keeps them from ever being in want, while they are able to work; and deprives them, in a great measure, of

the power of spending money imprudently. The very favourable effect of it, therefore, on the morals of the people is too important not to deserve special notice.

Husbandry.—The situation of this parish is peculiarly favourable to the purposes of agriculture, the lands in general consisting of a dry and manageable soil, which the skilful farmer can turn to great advantage; and the climate being so favourable, that grain, even in the latest seasons, is commonly brought to maturity. There is a ready market for every kind of farm produce at the town of Berwick-on-Tweed, which is only four miles distant. There corn is sold by sample, and the utmost punctuality observed by the corn-merchants, as to payment. To the recently established market at Eyemouth corn is also sent. Some part of this is disposed of to the millers in the neighbourhood, whose mills on the banks of the Whitadder (one of which lies in this parish) manufacture a considerable quantity of meal, flour, barley, &c. The wool-staplers from Yorkshire come here at particular seasons to purchase the wool; while fat stock is sold to dealers from Morpeth,—to fleshers in Berwick,—and at a monthly market at Ayton.

Berwick supplies the agriculturist with manure, which is much used in turnip husbandry, though within these five or six years bone-dust has been greatly in request. Bones in considerable quantity are imported at Berwick from Prussia and other continental countries,—are ground at mills in the neighbourhood,—and sold at from 18s. to 20s. per imperial quarter. This kind of manure has greatly superseded the former, being suitable for the light soil of the parish; and it is more easily, and at less expense, conveyed to the higher grounds. Very considerable improvements in the cultivation of the soil have taken place during the last ten or twenty years. Draining has been and is carried on to a very considerable extent, so that the land has become greatly more productive. Every species of white and green crops is raised, particularly barley, oats, turnips, and artificial grasses. Wheat and beans are raised in smaller quantities than the other kinds of grain, because not so suitable to the light soil of the parish. The usual rotation of crops is, first oats, then turnips; after these, barley with grass-seeds, which makes hay the succeeding crop; and the ground upon which it is raised is commonly allowed to remain for some years in grass for pasture,—after which it is again taken up and managed according to the above rotation. There is always, however, a great proportion of the land in grass, and to this the tenants

are commonly bound down in their leases, which extend to the term of nineteen years; and they are seldom permitted to have more than the half of their land in tillage.

But the crop which ought especially to be noticed, on account of the improvements recently made in the mode of its cultivation, is the *turnip crop*. Turnip husbandry is conducted in this parish on an extensive scale. Turnips are highly valuable for feeding cattle during winter, either on neighbouring grass-fields into which they are carried, or by being used in houses or sheds. On the light and dry soil, of which the greatest part of the parish consists, the feeding of sheep on the ground where turnips grow is considered highly advantageous, and is the method universally adopted. The *ruta бага*, or Swedish turnip, whose hardy and durable quality renders it so advantageous to the farmer after the early turnip has been used, is cultivated in the proportion of one-third to the white globe-turnip. The land on an average may yield 5 bolls of 6 bushels of wheat per acre; $6\frac{1}{2}$ of barley; and $7\frac{1}{8}$ of oats. Pease is a crop scarcely at all raised, except in the lower parts of the parish, where the land will yield from 6 to 8 bolls per acre; and of hay no more is raised than is necessary to supply the horses, cattle, &c. in the parish; but on an average of seasons, the crop amounts to from 180 to 220 stones per acre. Potatoes are raised in small quantities for home consumption, and generally amount to from 25 to 30 bolls of 40 imperial stones, per acre. An acre of turnip will pasture ten sheep for six months. The ground is farmed under the four-shift husbandry.

Produce.—The gross amount of the raw produce yearly raised in the parish may be as follows:

Produce of grain of all kinds, 3617 bolls at 24s.	-	-	L. 4340	0	0
Of turnips and potatoes, 283 acres,	-	-	1153	0	0
Of hay, meadow and cultivated, 12000 stones at 7d.	-	-	350	0	0
Of land in pasture, rating it at from L. 3, 10s. to L. 4, 15s. per cow or full-grown ox, grazed, or that may be grazed, for the season; and at 1½s. per ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured, or that may be pastured, for the year,	-	-	1000	0	0
Total yearly value of raw produce raised,	-	-	L. 6843	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated, on the whole, conveniently for the population, being not farther than three miles from the most distant part of the parish. It was built in 1757, when it was removed from its former situation on the south of Mordington House. The field on which it stood is still known

by the name of the " Kirk Park." The church is seated for 173. The average number of communicants is 98. Divine service is, on the whole, well attended by the parishioners, and by a considerable number of members of the Church of Scotland from the liberties of Berwick. The number of families belonging to the Established church is 45; of Dissenting or Seceding families, 14. The average amount of church collections may be stated at L. 8 a-year. The manse was built about twenty years ago, and is in good repair. The glebe consists of fifteen acres and a-half of good arable land, and yields a rent of L. 37, 10s. The stipend is the minimum.

Education.—There is one parochial school, at which fifty children on an average are taught reading, writing, arithmetic, &c. The schoolmaster's salary is the maximum: and his school fees may amount to L. 30 per annum. The people are in general alive to the benefits of education; but their anxiety to put their children soon to work for themselves, frequently induces them to take them from school before their education has been at all properly advanced. There are not more than 2 or 3 persons upwards of fifteen years of age in the parish who cannot read. The total number of scholars attending school in the course of a year is 56.

Library.—There is one small library in the parish, which has been in existence for two years. It was established, and is kept up, by private subscription, and the books are given out gratis.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—This parish, like many on the Scottish border, is very heavily assessed for the poor. The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 18. The average sum allotted to each per week is 1s. 9d. The only fund from which the maintenance of the poor is derived, is an annual assessment on the proprietors and tenants; its average amount is L. 99, 18s. That so large a sum should be required for a population of only 301, is to be ascribed chiefly to the proximity of the parish to England. After a claim on this parish has been established by a residence of three years, persons remove into England, where, after the lapse of many years, they become paupers; and, not establishing a claim for aid from any English parish, they become burdens on this, the last Scotch parish in which they have established a claim for parochial relief. In proof of this, it may be stated, that, at present, of 19 on the roll, 12 reside in England. It is a remarkable fact, that, in the year 1792, when the former Statistical Account was writ-

ten, there were only *two* paupers on the roll; at present there are 19. Then, the assessment did not exceed L. 7; it is now L. 100. This enormous increase may be ascribed in part to laxity in the administration of the poor-laws; but chiefly to the loss of that feeling of independence which was formerly so noble a characteristic of the Scottish peasantry,—a circumstance to be ascribed almost entirely to the withering influence of the English poor-law system.

Inns, &c.—There are no fewer than four public-houses where spirits are sold. Two of these are at toll-bars; but it is to be hoped that this number will soon be diminished.

Fuel.—Coal is easily obtained by the inhabitants of this parish from the Berwick collieries: it is sold at the rate of from 3s. 4d. to 4s. 8d. per cart load.

February 1835.

PARISH OF LEGERWOOD.

PRESBYTERY OF LAUDER, SYNOD OF MERSE AND TIVIODALE.

THE REV. JOHN WALKER, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name.—THE name of this parish appears to have undergone several inconsiderable variations in its orthography. It is said by Chalmers in his *Caledonia* to be found, in the ancient charters of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, written *Ligerdewode*, *Ligerdeswode*, *Ligeardeswode*. About the period of the Revolution and subsequently, it was written *Ligertwood* and sometimes *Legertwood*,—which last form is still retained by the older people. It is most probably derived from the Saxon word signifying “*the hollow wood*,” or “*the hollow part of the wood*,”—which when the country was covered with trees, would be exactly descriptive of the principal farm which still bears that name.

Boundaries, Extent.—It is bounded, on the north, by part of Westruther parish and *Boon Dreigh*, a small stream which separates it from the parish of Lauder; on the west, excepting in one place where it crosses that river a short way, by the Leader, which divides

it from the parishes of Lauder and Melrose; on the south, by the parish of Earlstoun; and on the east, by the parishes of Gordon and Westruther. Its greatest length from Purves-haugh Bridge on the south, to Dodds Mill, on the north, is 6 miles; and its breadth from Bridge-end, on the west, to Stockbridge, on the east, is $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles. These, however, are extreme points, and a more correct idea may be conveyed of its extent by stating it at 5 miles in length by 3 in breadth. The boundary line is irregular: and of two portions into which its area is divided by a pretty deep valley, the northern and longest is, until near its upper limit, not much less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in breadth,—while the southern, indented deeply by the parish of Gordon, scarcely exceeds $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles. The whole parish contains about 15 square miles.

Topographical Appearances.—The greater part of the parish lies high; the northern part, especially, which may be described as forming with Westruther the contiguous parish on the east, a table land of considerable elevation, extending from the narrow valley of the Leader to the base of the Lammermoor hills. The surface of this portion is not level, but consists of three ridges of hills, with high valleys intervening—the two southernmost of these ridges stretching from east to west, and the northern striking off from them in a northerly direction, and terminating in a round massive height named “Boon Hill,” which rises 1090 feet above the level of the sea. The southern part of the parish is entirely occupied by one hill, which, on the south, slopes gradually into the vale of Earlstoun, and on the east towards the boundary of Gordon. Of the elevations generally, it ought to be stated, that they agree in having their direction nearly east and west, and in having their abruptest end almost westward, and a gentle declivity as they range to the east.

Climate.—The cold and moisture are considerably greater than in the Merse and many parts of the Lothians, owing to the elevation of the land, want of shelter, want of draining, and contiguity to the Lammermoors. The frosts in winter are understood to be more intense than in these parts, and the falls of snow are heavier, and continue longer on the ground. The crops in autumn are generally later by a week, and, in backward seasons, by a fortnight, than in the lowest grounds of the Merse. On the whole, however, the climate is not insalubrious.

Of the very limited population, it may be noticed that there are 22 individuals betwixt sixty and seventy, most of whom are still ac-

tive, and 5 above seventy; one of the latter is considerably above eighty, and another has attained to the great age of ninety-four. The people are no doubt indebted in a great degree for the blessing of robust health, to comfortable accommodation, temperate habits of life, and regular and bracing employment.

Hydrography.—There are perennial springs of excellent water in all parts of the parish, which appear to flow from sandstone rock, and frequently through gravel or through sand. It is said that there was formerly a loch of considerable extent on the lands of Corsbie; and that it enclosed a small wooded mount, on which the ruins are still standing of an ancient tower, the residence of the old possessors of the barony. The sheet of water, however, if it did remain entire until so late a period as to encircle this secluded fortalice, has long been drained off, and its bason is now partly unimproved moss, and chiefly meadow pasture.

The Leader washes the western boundary of the parish on its way to the Tweed. The Eden, a very small stream, has its source on the farm of Boon, and after a course of about fifteen miles, falls into the Tweed below Newton Don. Several nameless rivulets convey the superfluous moisture to the Leader, or the Eden, and in the northern parts of the parish into Boon Dreigh, a tributary of the Leader.

Geology, &c.—The whole eastern part of the parish, together with the northern side of the valley of Legerwood, rests upon secondary sandstone; and the hills in the northern part, excepting Boon Hill, which appears to consist of conglomerate, have been raised by graywacke. This rock abounds in veins, filled, so far as I have seen, with clay. At one place, where a quarry has been opened for dikes, these veins appear to cut each other at right angles; some running almost due north, others east. Immediately above the bridge at Dodds Mill, on the Edinburgh road, a striking effect may be seen, produced by the action of water upon this veinous rock, which arrested the attention of the French traveller, M. Faujas St Fond. The stream has uncovered a pretty large mass, and by washing away the soft veins which lay parallel to its course, has caused the hard rock to present an appearance which might be mistaken at first sight for columnar basalt. In a scientific point of view, it does not seem to possess much interest; but its appearance is attractive, especially if the formation be mistaken for columnar. The end, covered with ivy, of the edifice upon which the mill-wheel turns, and the trough that conveys the im-

elling stream, abut upon the little cataract; and the whole is shaded by some thriving trees. In consequence of lying lower than the road, too, it is not observed until the passenger is almost in a condition to look down upon it, when the real scene may almost be forgotten, in the likeness which it presents to a Dutch picture.

The hill which has been said to occupy the southern part of the parish is formed principally of conglomerate, resting on which, on the southern aspect of the hill, is a shivered graywacke, much more granular than the compact and solid stone at Dodds Mill, with frequent strata of camstone or slaty graywacke in thin layers much hardened, and at one place of the *road quarry*, where it is revealed, enveloping with several concentric folds an imbedded mass of the principal rock.

Minute portions of copper of good quality have been found washed out by the rain, on the farm of Dodds. It is believed to be present in small quantities over a large part of the district; and, at a distant period, to have been wrought in the Lammermoors. No mine for that or any other metallic ore has ever been opened in this parish. None of the simple minerals have been found in the rocks, excepting veins and occasionally small crystals of calc-spar, and pieces of common quartz. The rolled stones which occur in the fields are generally sandstone, graywacke, camstone, and porphyry, pieces of which abound on Legerwood hill, and may form the top of the highest eminence, resting on the tuffa.

A formation here called *Moorband*, (clay with imbedded stones indurated by iron,) is found at several places in thin but pretty extensive masses near the surface.* It seems to be a sort of bog-iron, forms rapidly, and, unless broken up and removed, which is not easily accomplished, is both a bar to the plough and destroys vegetation. Peat of great depth and excellent quality is abundant; but it is not permitted to be cut: and, excepting in a few instances, and very sparingly, that fuel is not used.

There is a considerable variety of soils in the parish, which in general take their character from the underlying rock. Upon Boon Hill, the soil is clayey and very deep, and upon much of Legerwood Hill also the soil is a deep reddish clay. The graywacke is covered to the top of the hills by a thin gravelly and untransported soil, which, on their sides, becomes deep and productive; and upon the

* The *moorband*, in other parishes in Scotland, is named *pan*, and generally is made up of gravel and sand cemented by bog-iron ore.

sandstone rock, wherever the soil is good, it is a mixed soil, partly its own, with detached masses, and partly transported from the conglomerate of the hills. There is also resting upon it occasionally, chiefly in spots, or at the ends of fields, a soil of pure peat earth, which, though damp, appears to be quickened to some fertility. A considerable portion, however, of unreclaimed heath, (much of which is considered incapable of being improved,) rests upon this rock, and consists of a thin layer of sand or gravel mixed with, or underlying, peat earth.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent men.—The Rev. William Calderwood, who was minister of this parish at the period of Episcopal domination in the reigns of the two last of the Stewart family, is entitled to notice, not as having acted in an eminent sphere, but worthily, during the unequal struggle which presbytery had then to maintain,—and also on account of his family, as he is understood to have been the son or nephew of the church historian. He was admitted to his charge in 1655, and in 1662, along with the great proportion of the talent and worth which still remained in the church, he was turned out for nonconformity to the Acts of Glasgow. Being much beloved by the people, he remained among them for a considerable time after his expulsion, and when at last he had removed from their neighbourhood, he often visited them privately. It appears to have been on account of the meetings which took place at these visits, that the parish was fined for holding conventicles in August 1684.* He returned to his charge in 1689, and died in 1709, at the advanced age of eighty-one, having earned a high reputation, (which still survives him in the place,) both for sanctity of life, and ministerial faithfulness.†

Land-owners.—The land-owners are, according to their valued rents, Henry Ker Seymer, Esq. of Morriston; The Most Noble The Marquis of Tweeddale; Miss Innes of Stow; John Spottiswoode Esq. of Spottiswoode; Dr Scott of East Morriston; Colonel Shillinglaw of Birkhillside; Mr Fairholm of Chapel.

Historical Notices.—The whole land in the parish, or at least Birken-side, Whitslaid, Legerwood, and the Morristons, belonged before the twelfth century to the family of Stewart.‡ About the

* Preface to 2d vol. Wodrow. For the extent of the parish, the fine, which was L. 1666, 13s. 4d., appears to have been severe.

† Three fugitives, also belonging to this parish, are included in the proclamation of this year (1684): Alexander Brown, in Berken-side, and Thomas Carter and John Pringle, both in Ligertwood.

‡ Chalmers' Caledonia, Art. Legerwood.

year 1160, Malcolm IV. granted to his Stewart, Walter, the son of Alan,—Birchensyde and Legerdeswode, as they had been held by his grandfather David in his demesne. Walter, his grandson, and the third Stewart, gave the lands of Birchensyde in marriage with his daughter Euphemia, to Patrick, who succeeded as Earl of Dunbar in 1232; and Robert the Stewart, who succeeded to the throne, granted to Alan de Lauder, his tenant of Whitslaid, many manorial rights in Birchensyde, Legerdswode, and Morristown,—a grant which was confirmed by King Robert II. 13th June 1371.

The family of Lauder were still in possession of Whitslaid in 1635. It afterwards belonged to the Montgomeries of Mackbiehill;* and, along with Birken-side, came by purchase into the possession of Mr Innes of Stow. Morriston and Legerwood were, in 1635, in the possession of the ancient family who still hold it. The barony of Corsbie appears at an early period to have belonged to the Cranstouns of Oxenford, and in 1635 it was still in their possession. Dodds afterwards passed to the Hays of Mordington, and then came by purchase to the family of Spottiswoode. The rest of the barony, comprehending the farms of Boon and Corsbie, belongs to the Most Noble the Marquis of Tweeddale.

East Morriston, in 1635, belonged to Francis and John Wilkison. It was afterwards the property of Mr Peter of Chapel, and was purchased by the late Thomas Scott, Esq.

A part of Birken-side, which in 1635 belonged to Robert Hart of St John's Chapel, advocate, became in 1689, the property of William Shillinglaws, elder and younger, of the elder in liferent; and is now in the possession of Colonel William Shillinglaw, their lineal descendant. It is the opinion of Colonel Shillinglaw, that his ancestor, whose entrance to the parish seems to have been connected with Mr Calderwood's return, and who was an elder and keeper for sometime of the Session records, assumed the name of Shillinglaw, in consequence of transactions in which he had been engaged during the previous troubles; and that his real name was the ancient, and in this quarter, honourable, name of Kerr.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest entry in the parochial registers is September 8, 1689. They appear to have been regularly kept, but are very meagre.

Antiquities.—Of the three ancient towers which are mention-

* There is a tomb-stone in the churchyard to the memory of William Montgomery of Mackbiehill, who died at Whitslaid in 1689, which was repaired by his grandson, the Right Honourable James Montgomery, Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, in 1798.

ed in the former Statistical Account, two only, those at Corsbie and Whitslaid, are now standing. The tower of Morriston has been pulled down, and has been nearly altogether removed in the course of agricultural improvements. Neither of the towers still standing bear any date or inscription; but they are supposed to have been erected in the reign of James II. Upon the arched roof of Whitslaid tower, there is a fine sycamore tree growing. It is of considerable size, and appears to be perfectly healthy. The traces of two British camps, one on the top of Legerwood Hill, and the other on the hill of Birken-side, are still discernible, but they have been much defaced by the plough; and on the farm of Boon, in the barony of Corsbie, there is a stone which is called the "*Dodds Corse Stane*." It is a shaft of sandstone sunk into a square block of the same material, and is said to have been the place where a market was at one time held for the vicinity.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish amounted in 1755, to	-	398
1791,	-	422
1801,	-	495
1811,	-	560
1821,	-	476
1831,	-	565

The apparent deficiency in the number of inhabitants in 1821, was owing to the census having been taken immediately upon the term of Whitsunday, after several house and farm-servants had removed, and before many of those had arrived who were engaged to supply their places. The inhabitants, therefore, until 1811, seem to have increased with the demands, first of an advancing, and then of a more perfect agriculture. Since that period, the present system of husbandry is understood to have been followed. There has, however, been a trifling increase of the agricultural population; for in the year 1811, there were 14 families supported by trade and handicraft, and now there are only 10,—the heads of two of these being millers, who each rent a small piece of land. Indeed, the inhabitants may be said to be limited to a number barely sufficient to cultivate the soil and to tend the stock,—the deficiency which would otherwise be experienced in autumn being supplied by Irish labourers, who come in great numbers at that season.

There is no town in the parish, and scarcely such a collection of houses as to deserve the name of a village. On every farm there is a hamlet, where the hinds or farm-servants reside,—every hind

supplying a female labourer, his wife or daughter, or hired servant, to be employed in the work of the farm, for daily pay, except during harvest, when her work is given as for rent of the house which he occupies.

The average number of births yearly for the last seven years amounts almost to 14. In the register, an account is kept of burials, not of deaths; of burials the average is 8,—but this is not a correct shewing of the mortality in the parish, because many people being in possession of a burying-place from their parents or more distant progenitors, inter their dead in the churchyard, who do not reside, or may never have resided, within the parish. The average number of marriages is 4.

The number of persons under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	-	221
betwixt 15 and 30,	-	-	-	-	179
betwixt 30 and 50,	-	-	-	-	112
betwixt 50 and 70,	-	-	-	-	43
above 70,	-	-	-	-	9
Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	98
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	88
in trade or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	10

There is only one proprietor of land resident, Colonel Shillinglaw of Birkhillside. Some of the farmers are understood, in respect to fortune, to be independent of their profession; and, as the farms are large, all have a considerable capital vested in stock, &c.

John Murray, Esq. of Uplaw, although not a proprietor, should be mentioned in an account of this parish, as his family has been longer connected with it than any other now resident,—that family having held the farm of Corsbie since 1671. In 1690, his ancestor, John Murray of Uplaw, was ordained by Mr Calderwood one of the elders for arranging parochial affairs, then in a state of much confusion; and seems to have possessed great influence among the inhabitants,—an influence which his descendants have never ceased to retain.

Character, &c. of the People.—They are commonly sober-minded, industrious, and temperate. Their houses, are in general good and comfortable, well furnished, and kept with great attention to cleanliness. They seldom eat butcher-meat; but they keep a cow, have a pig, which they fatten for their families, and get, as part of wages, more meal and potatoes than in some instances they consume. They appear to enjoy in a reasonable degree the comforts and advantages of society, and to be quite contented with their situation and circumstances.

During the last three years, there have been 8 illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture.—The number of acres in the parish amounts to 8430. Of this land, 3470 acres are regularly under cultivation; 1830 are in permanent pasture, but are cropped occasionally, for the purpose of renewing the sown grasses when they die out; 2830 acres have never been cultivated, some of which might be improved, perhaps, as pasture, but not otherwise; and 300 acres are in wood. There is no part of the land in a state of undivided common. About 16 acres are of natural wood, which consists, with a few ash trees and young oaks, chiefly of alder, birch, and hazel. The plantations are of larch, spruce, and common firs, with a small proportion of hard wood. They are all young, protected by good fences, and appear to be in a thriving state.

The land forty years ago, as appears from the former Statistical Account, was held by seventeen tenants. It is now occupied by nine, several of the farms being extensive.

Rent of Land.—The average rent per acre is from 12s. to 15s.; The average rent of grazing is at the rate of L. 3, 10s. per ox or cow grazed, and at the rate of 15s. per ewe or full-grown sheep pastured by the year. The rental of the parish is L. 3800.

Live-Stock.—The common breeds of sheep are the Leicester and Cheviot, and a cross from these. The cattle are now chiefly, and until of late they were solely, of the short-horned breed: and very great attention is paid to the rearing and fattening both of sheep and cattle. Every arrangement of the farmer has some reference to this paramount object; and the remark of the intelligent writers of the last Statistical Account is still applicable, “even a stranger might judge, at a first aspect, that the feeding and fattening of sheep and cattle are the primary objects of the industry of the farmers of this parish.” Not an acre, probably, of the large portion of land, 1830 acres, which has been stated to be occasionally under cultivation for the purpose of reclaiming the pasture, remunerates by its grain produce, at present prices, the outlay in labour and manure, and seeds. Of that portion, also, which is under regular cultivation, there is much which is considered to be scarcely profitable, and which would be kept, therefore, in permanent pasture, were straw and hay and turnips not needed for the winter sustenance and fattening of stock. A five years’ rotation of crop is observed on all the farms; and, as potatoes are not grown for the market, one-fifth of the cultivated land may be said to be annually in turnips, two-fifths in oats and barley, and two-fifths in grass, of which scarcely one-sixth is cut for hay.

Husbandry.—The system of husbandry thus arranged, is pursued with much zeal and enlightened generosity to the land, and appears to be most judicious, and, in the circumstances, highly successful. The tenants are all men of acknowledged skill and experience in the science of farming; they are not embarrassed by inadequacy of capital, and almost every year some melioration, chiefly in the way of draining, is effected. Unfortunately, however, the state in which they appear generally to have entered to the soil would impose upon them much more than it would be practicable for most, or prudent for any tenant, on a common lease, without the greatest encouragement, to undertake. A large portion of the land, it should be stated, is not enclosed, and much of the residue is enclosed but indifferently. The best soils are now, it is true, generally dry and kept in the highest condition: but draining is needed on almost every inferior field; while over nearly the whole of the land which is occasionally tilled, water that might be carried off injures the pasture. Embankment is in some places required. The rigour of the climate, too, which in winter is frequently unfavourable to the turnip feeding of stock, and in other respects hurtful, might be mitigated, were convenient stripes of land, not of much value for other purposes, occupied by plantations. These, however, are changes, that, from their character, or from the extent to which they would require to be carried, no farmer could, without great imprudence, on a lease of sixteen or nineteen years, the ordinary duration of leases, even purpose deliberately.

It is gratifying to state, that improvements, in some instances of great importance, emanating from, or aided by, the land-owners, and sometimes effected entirely by the tenant, have been made, with manifest advantage, or are now in progress, on a scale sufficiently large to encourage the hope that anything requisite to put the agriculturalist, so far as our high climate shall permit, on an equal footing with more favoured districts, will follow in due time. East Morriston, the estate of the late Thomas Scott, Esq. has been under his own superintendence, drained carefully, enclosed, and sheltered by plantations, which have become highly ornamental. Colonel Shillinglaw's property of Birkhillside, with similar advantages, is in the same excellent condition. The large farm of Corsbie, through Mr Murray's exertions, has been improved, and is in a great measure subdivided to the full extent of its arable land, and, although not sheltered by plantations, is known for the rearing of excellent stock. On the large and valuable farm of Legerwood,

though also in need of shelter, so successful has been Mr Murray's treatment of the cultivated land, that much of his crop is not surpassed in the county, while his stock likewise bears a high character. On the farm of West Morriston, a considerable part of the regularly cultivated land is well sheltered and enclosed, and has been drained gradually with care,—while, on the pasture land, a simple but efficacious surface draining has lately been executed by a plough of Mr Sumner's own invention. The farm of Whitslaid appears to be well fenced, and has thriving plantations; and on Birken-side, extensive improvements, conducted with great judgment, are in progress. Dodds, the property of John Spottiswoode, Esq. of Spottiswoode, is, as to the larger part, subdivided; and through the spirit of the tenant, and the landlord's liberal and prudent encouragement, 100 acres of land have lately been improved. And the farm of Boon, the most extensive in the parish, is about to be suitably enclosed and subdivided, immediately on the entrance of the tenant upon a new lease, at Whitsunday next. These changes must shortly be of great benefit, both to the appearance and the qualities of the land.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce yearly raised in the parish may be as follows:

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals,	-	-	-	-	-	L. 5889	0	0
Of turnips,	-	-	-	-	-	1735	0	0
Of hay, whether meadow or cultivated,	-	-	-	-	-	700	0	0
Of land in pasture, rating it at L. 3, 10s. per cow or full-grown ox, grazed or that may be grazed for the season, and at 15s. per ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured or that may be pastured for the year,						3450	0	0
There are no market gardens in the parish: The produce of the various kitchen gardens and of the fruit trees may be						18	0	9
Total yearly value of raw produce raised,						L. 11,792	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The means of communication are ample. The road from Kelso to Edinburgh passes along the east side of the parish, and that from Hawick, along the west; and there is a post-office both at Lauder and Earlston. There are about ten miles of parish road; upon which, and on turnpike roads within the parish, are nine bridges in tolerable repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is placed on the northern ascent of the valley, which has been mentioned as passing across the parish; and it is conveniently situated for the bulk of the population. Excepting on the extreme northern limit of the parish, which is inhabited, and is three miles and a-half distant, none

of the inhabitants are at a greater distance than two miles and a-half. It is not known at what time the church was built. It appears, however, from an inscription upon the edifice to have been extensively repaired in 1717. It was again repaired in 1804, and is in good condition. It contains 203 sittings; a greater number of persons might be accommodated, but not comfortably. There are no free sittings, nor are there any let for money. They belong to the different proprietors, according to their valued rents, and are by them apportioned to the tenants, who hold them for their own accommodation, and that of the people who live under them.

The manse was built in 1750, and enlarged and repaired in 1812. The glebe extends to ten acres, and may be worth about L. 15,* and the stipend is 14 chalders, half meal and half barley, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. Sterling of money. There is no chapel of ease attached to the Established church, or Dissenting or Seceding chapel in the parish.

The number of families in the parish, as before stated, is 98; of which thirteen families belong to the Secession, and attend the chapels at Lauder or Earlston; the rest attend the parish church: and the number of communicants is from 190 to 200. There is a branch of the Berwickshire Bible Society in the parish, and an association for contributing to the Highland Schools and Indian Mission, under the management of the General Assembly's Committees. The church collections yearly for these purposes are expected to amount to L. 10 or L. 12.

Education.—There is only the parochial school in the parish. The branches of instruction generally taught in it are, English reading and grammar, writing, arithmetic, and occasionally book-keeping and practical mathematics. The salary is L. 28 per an-

* I have been favoured by Mr Macdonald of the Register Office with an interesting notice respecting this matter. It is the answer of Mr George Byres to the inquiry instituted by Government in 1625 into the provision made for the support of the clergy, and is understood to have been furnished in 1627.

“The kirk of Legertwood is ane of the kirkis of Paislay; the patronage thereof is now in the hands of Alexander Cranstoun of Rummiltounlaw: the present provisioun thereof is three chalders of aitt meal, and the vicarage, quhilk extendis to twa hundred merkis; the teindis of the said parochie, as according to the stent of the Abbay of Paislay, fyfteen chalders of victuall, quhairof the minister has three chalderis.

“There is husband land parteining to the parsonage fued to the guidman of Rummiltounlaw be the Abbot of Paislay, quhairof the minister hes four akeris.

(Signed) “Mr GEORGE BYRES, Minister of Legertwood.”

An augmentation was granted to this gentleman in 1635 by mutual agreement of the heritors; who were John Cranstoun, titular of the teinds; John Cranstoun of Corsbie; Andrew Ker of West Morriston; Francis and John Wilkison of East Morriston; Robert Hart of St John's Chapel, advocate, heritor of nine husbands land of Birken-side; Gilbert Lauder, heritable proprietor of Whitslaid and Bridgehaugh; John Brown of Kirkhill.

num, with the legal accommodation as to house and garden ; and the school-fees amount to L. 20 per annum. The general expense of education per month is, for English, 10d. ; for writing, 1s. ; for arithmetic, 1s. 2d. ; and for book-keeping, &c. 6s. per quarter.

The number of scholars last year at school was 71.

There are a number of children between six and fifteen years of age who cannot write,—for the population being scattered, five or six years, (according as it is winter or summer,) is the age at which children are first sent to school ; and at eight or nine years they begin to write : but there are at present 63 between the ages of six and fifteen in the parish who have been taught to write, or are learning.

There are, perhaps, some females above fifteen who cannot write ; but no individuals above that age are understood to be unable to read. The people seem in general to be alive to the important benefits of education, and it is an object which the kirk-session has for a considerable time anxiously watched over and promoted. There is a private school in the parish of Westruther ; and another at Blainslie, in the parish of Melrose,—both of which some of the children attend, on account of their distance from the parish school. There is also a Sabbath school, which is well attended. No other schools are required.

Literature.—There is a library in the parish ; but the number of books is still very limited. It was commenced some years ago as a library for the young who were attending the parochial Sabbath school. The plan was afterwards extended, and books suited to grown-up persons have since been added. It increases yearly, but at a slow rate.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The number of persons at present regularly receiving parochial aid is 12 ; the average sum allotted to each per week is 2s.—children 1s. The amount of money for their relief assessed upon the land at last November was L. 25. A regular assessment for the poor appears to have obtained in this parish so early as 1755. The church collections for the relief of the poor may amount, together with the mortcloth money, to L. 10 or L. 11 annually. With this money, which is left entirely to the management of the Session, individuals who are in want, owing to ill health or large families, are occasionally aided : and endeavours have for some time been made to bear up, by seasonable relief and encouragement, persons who are in difficulties, so as to prevent them from sinking upon the poors' roll, and as much as possible to mi-

tigate the evils of compulsory provision. There are instances of backwardness on the part of individuals to apply for parochial relief; but they are rare.

Fuel.—The fuel used is coal, and a small quantity of peat. The coal is principally carried from the Lothians, and costs about L. 1, 1s. per ton. English coal can be purchased in Kelso at a cheaper rate, but it is considered to be of inferior quality, and is little used.

February 1835.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

COUNTY OF BERWICK.

BY THE REV. JOHN EDGAR, A. M. MINISTER OF HUTTON.

Name.—THE ancient name of Berwickshire was the Merse, which it probably derived from its local situation as a border or march district. This name, however, appears to have been restricted to the lower and more fertile part of the county, while the hilly and more sterile district was denominated Lammermoor. It is difficult to ascertain the precise limits of these two divisions, and the distinction is now only nominal. The only occasion on which it is recognized is at the striking of the fiars of the county,—the price of Lammermoor grain being fixed at a lower rate than that of the Merse. It is almost superfluous to observe that this County derives its present name from the town of Berwick-upon-Tweed, in its immediate vicinity. With this ancient place, though not within its territorial limits, and though governed by English laws, Berwickshire is intimately connected. It is the only town of considerable importance, either for population or trade, in the district, and the principal sea port whence the corn, wool, and other agricultural produce of the county are exported.

Situation and Extent.—This county is situated betwixt 1° 41' and 2° 34' of West Long. from London; and betwixt 55° 36' 30" and 55° 58' 30" of North Lat. Its extreme length is 34 miles, and

its extreme breadth 21. Its mean length is 28 miles, and mean breadth 17 miles. It contains 476 square miles, or 304,640 English acres.* Berwickshire forms the south-eastern limit of Scotland: it is separated from Haddingtonshire on the north by an irregular boundary; the counties of Edinburgh and Roxburgh bound it on the west, by a crooked and zig-zag line; and the latter county, Northumberland, and North Durham form its southern limits. On the east, the county is washed by the German Ocean. Its maritime coast extends nearly 20 miles, commencing near Lamerton, at the eastern point of Mordington parish, and terminating at the north part of the parish of Cockburnspath, where it joins East Lothian. On the south-east it is bounded by the liberties of Berwick.

Topography.—The aspect of the county is considerably diversified. The Lammermoor district, if it cannot be called mountainous, is at least hilly, bleak, and moorish. Some of the hills in Lammermoor are of considerable altitude; they are generally covered with heath, and have round and flattened summits. The following table shows the heights of the principal hills above the level of the sea, and the parishes in which they are situated:—

<i>Names of the hills.</i>		<i>Altitude.</i>		<i>Parishes.</i>
Lammerlaw,	-	1500 feet,	-	Lauder.
Sayerslaw,	-	1500 do.	-	Longformacus,
Dirringtonlaw,	-	1145 do.	-	Do.
Boonhill,	-	1090 do.	-	Legerwood,
Soutra,	-	1000 do.	-	Channelkirk,
Cockburnlaw,	-	912 do.	-	Dunse,
Dunselaw,	-	630 do.	-	Do.

Berwickshire cannot boast of such romantic features, and such striking localities as characterize some of the northern and western counties, and which prove so attractive to travellers. But still it is not without its beauties, though these are of a more subdued and less marked kind. Though there is a general uniformity in the Merse, yet even its flattest parts are not without many gentle swells and undulating elevations, which diversify the scenery, relieve the uniformity of a continued plain, and impart an agreeable variety to the prospect. These elevations generally range from the north-west to the south-east. In the district properly denominated the

* This account of the measurement of the county is taken from Kerr's Agricultural survey, published in 1809. It differs in some degree from Mr Blackadder's measurement. According to the authority of Mr Blackadder, as quoted in the Agricultural survey of Berwickshire, published in 1809, the whole may be distributed into the following divisions: Lowlands of the Merse, containing 100,226 acres; lowlands of Lauderdale, 7280; lowlands of Cockburnspath, 2200; hill lands of Lauderdale and Lammermoor, 175,784.—J. E.

Merse, extending from the Tweed to the Whitadder, and which is the most level part, a continued succession occurs, at short intervals, of those slight but well defined eminences. But what this county wants in the beauties of nature, has been abundantly supplied by the embellishments of art. Studded with handsome country seats, snug farm-houses, comfortable cottages, and clean and thriving villages, adorned with tasteful clumps, and extensive columns of wood of almost every variety of forest trees, and presenting to view numerous and well laid out fields of corn and pasture, completely enclosed with thriving hedges, and managed according to the most improved methods of modern husbandry, it appears in striking contrast to the barren and sterile aspect of the upland grounds, with which it is skirted on almost every side, and to what we may imagine its appearance to have been a century ago, when there were few vestiges of culture, no enclosures, and but little wood. The view towards the south, south-east and west, from the heights above Chirnside, is one of great variety, and by no means destitute of picturesque effect : it never fails forcibly to strike a stranger. It is doubtful whether in any district of Scotland such an extensive, rich, and well cultivated rural panorama can be found, or whose external features bear so near a resemblance to some of the fertile plains of "merry England." The Lammermoor hills are seen in all their sterile and heath-clad blackness, their rounded forms well defined, and placed, as it were, as a protection to the wide and cultivated plains which they enclose. Extending for many miles, the Merse appears reclining in calm repose, its surface decked with various objects of rural interest, and interspersed with trees, hedgerows, woods, rich pastures, and spacious and fertile corn fields. To the south-west is seen Hume Castle, frowning from its elevated site on the plain beneath, and recalling the remembrance of feudal times. At a farther distance, in nearly the same direction, appear the Eildon hills, towering to the clouds, while far to the south-east, the huge masses of the Cheviot mountains, rising in dim and dusky grandeur, arrest the eye of the spectator, and furnish a fine and imposing termination to the scene.

The eastern part of the county differs considerably in the character of its topography from the parishes in its internal part, —being more diversified with hill and dale, more variegated with rising grounds, and not presenting such an uniform and level appearance. In several places, this district is intersected with rugged

gullies and deep ravines, apparently produced by some violent natural convulsion,—through which meander gentle rivulets, whose tiny waters bear no proportion to the magnitude of their banks. The sea coast is generally high, rocky, and precipitous, presenting a bold front to the ocean, frequently rising perpendicular and abruptly from the sea, and indented and variegated with promontories and bays. The elevation of the coast is very considerable, especially in the neighbourhood of St Abb's Head, an object well known to mariners, and which forms the most prominent point on this line of coast,—at which the range of the Lammermoor hills, which extend so far across the island, may be considered as commencing. Of the several bays on the coast, the most remarkable is that of Coldingham, which, being protected by the high lands of St Abb's Head from the north-west, affords excellent shelter and secure anchorage-ground to vessels when prevented, by the prevalence of westerly winds, from proceeding up the Frith of Forth.

Climate.—During the spring, cold easterly winds generally prevail for several weeks. These retard vegetation, and produce their usual pernicious effects on gardens, and corn and grass fields. Summer weather seldom commences before the end of May, and indeed a too forward spring is not generally desired by farmers. The prevailing wind in summer is the south-west. Great and long-continued falls of rain do not frequently occur. Excessive droughts are more common, and by experienced agriculturists a series of dry weather, though of considerable duration, is considered more suited to the soil, and better calculated to secure a productive crop, than the other extreme. The winters may be pronounced, on an average, to be mild. Heavy falls of snow are of rare occurrence, and when they do happen, the snow seldom lies on the ground for any length of time, though on the Lammermoor hills it frequently retains its place weeks after it has disappeared in the lower parts of the county. In regard to climate, the Merse is rather favourably situated. Sheltered by the Lammermoor hills on the north, and by the Cheviot mountains on the south, the clouds which are generated by evaporation from the German Ocean are attracted by these hilly ranges, so that, while the operations of spring and harvest are proceeding in the lower part of the county with spirit and activity, under the cheering influence of genial and dry weather, in the higher they are not unfrequently interrupted and retarded, or, performed imperfectly, from the prevalence of

heavy rains, and from the moist and cold nature of the climate. The well known fact, that, in the best districts of this county, a considerable breadth of land is annually sown with wheat after turnips, sometimes so late as the month of April, and that fair crops are the result, is a criterion, and by no means an unfavourable one, of the character of the climate.

Soil.—A great variety of soils exists in the county; some districts being remarkable for a stiff and stubborn clay, others for a mixture of clay and loam; a rich loamy soil characterizing one part of the county, while another is distinguished for a mixture of sand, gravel, and loam, in various proportions; and on the same soil all these diversities are sometimes amalgamated. When it is considered that, not unfrequently on the same farm, all these varieties occur, and sometimes even on the same field; and that all these kinds of soil are modified by the character of the subsoil, which also exists in as great diversity,—to classify the varieties of the soil, or to ascertain with any degree of accuracy the extent to which these endless peculiarities prevail, would be almost if not altogether impossible. It may, in general terms, be observed, that clay forms the discriminating character of the lands in the “How of the Merse;” loam that part of the soil which skirts the chief rivers; while turnip soil is found in those parts of the Merse where there is not too great a preponderance of clay, and in the arable portion of the Lammermoor district. The lands on Tweedside, and along the banks of the Whitadder and Blackadder, generally consist of a fine deep loam, well fitted for raising luxuriant crops of almost every description, resting commonly on a gravelly subsoil, though sometimes on a stiff tenacious clay. These tracts of land are the most valuable in the county, and have been long under a course of skilful management. In the intermediate tract betwixt these rivers the land is less valuable, and degenerates into a stiff and hard clay, difficult to work, and from resting on a subsoil of stiff till, liable to be saturated with moisture, and long retaining it when thus saturated. The remainder of the arable part consists of a sharp sandy and gravelly soil, well adapted for raising turnips, combined in different proportions with loam and clay, easily wrought, and varying in quality and value according to the nature of the subsoil on which it is incumbent. This species of land is highly valued, and those farms which contain a considerable proportion of turnip soil are generally preferred by the tenantry. In the Agricultural Report of this county, published by the late John Home, Esq. W. S.

upwards of thirty years ago, the proportion of the various kinds of soil are thus given: Deep loam on the principal rivers, 25410 acres; clay lands in the How of the Merse, 40380; turnip soil, 119780; meadow, moss, and moor, in Lauderdale and Lammermoor, 99870.

Hydrography,—The principal rivers connected with this county are the Tweed, Whitadder, Blackadder, and Leader. The smaller streams are the Eye, Dye, Ale and Leet, besides a great number of burns that cannot be particularized. The salmon-fisheries on that part of the Tweed which skirts this county are of considerable value, and furnish employment during the season to a number of individuals. Of late years, however, it is matter of regret, that their value has been much diminished in consequence of a deficiency of fish. The rentals have accordingly sunk, some of them to a third of what they were a few years ago. Many causes have been assigned for this remarkable failure. None of them, however, appear satisfactorily to account for it. It has been conjectured that, in consequence of the pier of Berwick, which was erected some years ago, obtruding too far into the mouth of the river, its inlet has been narrowed, and the fish thereby prevented from entering it. But by practical fishermen, and other intelligent persons well acquainted with the natural history of the salmon, this cause has been rejected as insufficient to account for the failure,—it being well known that salmon are not easily deterred from resorting to their usual haunts, and are abundant in rivers with a much narrower entrance than that of the Tweed. Others have ascribed the deficiency to the general use of lime for agricultural purposes,—which being washed from the land by heavy rains, and in this way conveyed into the Tweed, produces a deleterious effect on the fish. But the practice of liming land in this district has not been recently introduced, and existed for many years, when there was no complaint of this failure. By others, it is thought that the river is overfished, the number of boats on the water having been much increased of late years. The most general opinion, and perhaps the most satisfactory one is, that the deficiency is to be accounted for from the illegal destruction of fish during close time in the upper part of the river and its tributaries,—which, in defiance of law, and in direct violation of the rights of property, has been persisted in to an alarming extent, especially in the higher district of Tweed-side. It is hoped that the Act lately obtained—a rigorous execution of the law on offenders—a stricter vigilance by those interest-

ed in the fisheries—and more vigorous measures on the part of proprietors—will contribute to check this evil, and to restore the river to its former state of productiveness.

The Tweed, so celebrated in song, and so renowned in history, and associated in the breast of every Scotsman with such interesting recollections, is, in the parts of it connected with this county, a magnificent and imposing stream,—maintaining through all its course its characteristic transparency—winding and tortuous in its career, and presenting on its banks a variety of interesting scenery. The road from Berwick to Kelso by Ladykirk and Coldstream, a great part of which passes close by the Tweed, is one of the most delightful in point of scenery in the south-east of Scotland. There is excellent salmon-fishing with the rod in this section of the Tweed, and in the autumn it is resorted to by amateurs of this interesting sport. A clause in the late act of Parliament renders it lawful to fish with the rod for a month after the usual fishing with nets has closed.

The other rivers in the county also abound with trout, and in the spring and summer seasons afford good sport to the angler. The Whitadder takes its rise in the hilly part of East Lothian, and is remarkable for the rapidity of its current, the steepness of its banks, and its numerous and circuitous windings. After receiving several considerable contributions from various nameless rivulets, and being joined by the Blackadder at Allanton, it unites with the Tweed about three miles above Berwick. The Blackadder rises in the parish of Westruther, passes Greenlaw, the county town, and after permeating the Merse, and imparting its charms to several gentlemen's seats which skirt it, joins the Whitadder. It is distinguished for the quality of its trout, which somewhat resemble those of Loch Leven, and are esteemed for their flavour. The Leader winds through Lauderdale, to which it gives its name, and from the upper part of which it issues, and runs into the Tweed, near old Melrose, at the point where it becomes the boundary of Berwickshire. The Leet, originating in the How of the Merse, unites with the same river at Coldstream, and the Eye, which rises in East Lothian, and flows in an easterly direction, falls into the sea at Eyemouth.

Coldingham Loch is the only natural piece of water of any extent in Berwickshire. It covers about thirty acres,—is remarkable for its high situation and its proximity to the sea—abounds with

perch—and imparts a lively character to the bleak and sterile tract by which it is encompassed.

Minerals.—There are neither coal nor lime in this county,—at least none that would bear the expense of working.

Agriculture.—

Table shewing the number of Acres cultivated, annual Value of Raw Produce, &c.

	Acres cultivat.	Acres never cultivated	Acres un- der wood.	An. value of raw produce.	Valued rent in Scots money.
Ab. St Bathans,	2300	2600	100	l. 2,555	L. 1113 10 10
Ayton,	6000	250	800	33,900	6620 1 0½
Bunkle,	7280	1600	420	16,165	6232 11 0½
Channelkirk,	5000	12,000	200	not stated	4729 13 9
Chirnside,	4629		371	14,580	4307 5 10
Coldingham,	50,000	7000	500	52,550	13,037 10 0
Cockburnspath	5200	3838	550	19,580	6561 3 11½
Coldstream,	8100		not stated	28,182	8743 4 7
Cranshaws,	350	not stated	do.	1,082	1271 7 1
Dunse,	6000	5000	1000	not stated	11,069 0 2½
Earlston,	5600	2118	915	do.	5948 13 11½
Eccles,	11,000		not stated	do.	15,604 3 4
Edrom,	7579		580	32,500	10,128 7 8½
Eyemouth,	840	10		6,939	1665 7 3½
Fogo,	4800		305	20,067	4042 3 9
Foulden,	2386	330	260	10,517	2595 16 8
Gordon,	4300	4100	500	15,345	4398 8 9
Greenlaw,	6276	3151	435	13,160	6836 3 11½
Hutton,	4950	61	250	19,657	6380 14 7
Ladykirk,	3050		50	11,330	4393 15 0
Langton,	3000	4000	200	not stated	3092 14 2
Lauder,	12,060	25,043	650	29,270	11,433 1 5½
Legerwood,	5300	2830	300	11,792	4023 3 6½
Longformacus,	2200	18,800	350	not stated	370P 18 9
Merton,	3460	1590	500	do.	5675 5 7
Mordington,	2597	900	26	6,848	2045 16 0
Nenthorn,	3080	30	310	9,120	2380 19 9
Polwarth,	1281	1373	398	3,297	1624 9 7
Swinton,	5383	70	25	21,282	4424 9 7
Westruther,	11,000	150	850	9,270	4418 4 7
Whitsome,*	4520	200	180	16,748	5058 1 5½

N. B.—*The returns do not always shew whether the “acres never cultivated,” include or do not include those or part of those “under wood.”*

Berwickshire may be described as almost purely agricultural. The great majority of its population derive their means of subsistence from their connection with the various departments of this useful art. In the few manufactories established in the county, the number of individuals employed bears a small proportion to those engaged in rural labours. Even the tradesmen in the small towns and villages depend much on the prosperity of the farming inte-

* The united parishes of Hume and Stitchill will be treated under the county of Roxburgh, to which they partly belong.

rest, as they must look for employment in their different vocations almost exclusively to the agriculturists, and their servants and dependents. Perhaps no county in Scotland is more entirely of an agricultural character, or more interested in this great branch of national and productive industry. The artisan, the labourer, and the hind, have all a deep concern in its success, as well as the actual cultivator of the soil, and the proprietor. They share in its depression and participate in its prosperity, and the various fluctuations to which it is exposed are felt, either for good or evil, by all classes of the community. To this art great attention has been paid. The march of agricultural improvements commenced at a comparatively early period in the Merse. So far back as in the year 1730, the judicious, spirited, and well-directed exertions of a few landed proprietors, gave a new character to the husbandry of the county. Among those patriotic and public-spirited individuals, who led the way in this good work, the names of Mr Swinton of Swinton, father of the late Lord Swinton; Mr Hume of Eccles; and at a later period, Lord Kames,—deserve to be honourably mentioned, as having contributed by their example to give a stimulus to rural improvement, which has been productive of the best effects, and which has raised Berwickshire to a high rank in the scale of agriculture. This spirit quickly spread to tenants of skill, enterprise, and capital. Their success stimulated others to follow their footsteps. Encouragement was given by proprietors to tenants, by granting them leases on liberal terms, and of a proper duration. Lands were enclosed, moorish tracts improved, lime and manure liberally applied, the turnip husbandry extensively pursued, and by the general use of thrashing-machines, and a thorough improvement of turnpike and parish roads, facilities were afforded for marketing grain on a scale commensurate with the improved productiveness of the soil, and the increasing capabilities of the county. Notwithstanding the severe depression under which this interest has laboured for some years past, and which at no period was more felt than at present, this county still retains its agricultural pre-eminence. Improvements are still proceeding to a certain extent, and perhaps there is no district of Scotland where agriculture is conducted with more of the precision and exactness of a science. The average size of farms in this county may be stated at from 300 to 400 English acres. The duration of leases is generally nineteen years. Of all agricultural improvements of modern times, perhaps the most valuable is the perfection to which drain-

ing has been carried. From the nature of the soil, and its tendency to humidity, no county required this improvement more than Berwickshire, and though much yet remains to be done, nowhere has it been more successfully or more extensively pursued. Drains are now laid out in a more scientific style than formerly, and, as a natural consequence, their operation on the soil is far more efficient and salutary. As an instance of the extent to which draining has been carried, it may be mentioned, that, upon an extensive farm in the united parish of Bunkle and Preston, drains have been made, the measurement of which amounts to twenty-four miles. The practice of cutting sheep drains has also been pursued in the pastoral and upland districts of the county, and the result has proved highly beneficial, by improving the herbage, and carrying off the superabundant moisture.

At the end of last century, the local connection of this county with the English borders directed the attention of some considerable landed proprietors to effect an improvement on the breeds of cattle and sheep. The late Mr Robertson of Ladykirk merits particularly to be mentioned as having taken the leading part in this branch of improvement, to which he was sedulously devoted. His liberal fortune and rich and extensive old pasture land on the demesne of Ladykirk, afforded him means and opportunities which few enjoyed, of carrying this department of rural economy to greater perfection than perhaps any other individual in Scotland. His efforts were crowned with success, and his breeds of sheep and cattle still continue to be highly prized by connoisseurs and adepts in these matters. The tenantry also followed his example on a more limited scale. The old breeds of cattle and sheep were gradually displaced, and kinds were introduced of more productive value, better adapted to the soil and climate, more kindly feeders, and sooner prepared for the butcher. To this department considerable attention is still paid in this county: and as its agriculture is of a mixed description, combining the raising of corn with the breeding, rearing, and feeding of stock, it is naturally to the farmer an object of no small importance, and his success very much depends on it. By the gradual extension of the turnip husbandry, which has gained for Berwickshire the appellation of the Norfolk of Scotland, and to which, by the application of the modern improvement of bone manure, a greater breadth of land can now be devoted, means are afforded of feeding for the market a much larger

quantity of stock than in former times ; and from this county being within a reasonable distance of the great stock markets in the north of England, and from the establishment of new markets for cattle and sheep at Coldstream, Dunse, and Ayton, at which places business in this line to a large amount is transacted, opportunities are presented to the farmers of readily disposing of their stock to any extent.

The grain raised in this county is mostly sold at Berwick, where there is a weekly corn-market. It is sold by sample, and the quantity annually disposed of is very great. It is believed that Berwick ranks amongst the third or fourth rate towns in Great Britain in respect of the quantity of corn exported. A great deal is sent to London. A stock corn-market has also lately been established at Eyemouth.

The Lammermoor district not being adapted for tillage, but a small portion of it is under the plough. It is therefore principally devoted to the pasturage of sheep, which is deemed a more safe and profitable method of employing capital in this part of the county, than the attempting to raise grain, which frequently yields a precarious return. The hills, neither being so high nor so sterile as in other mountainous tracts in the south of Scotland, afford sound and healthy pasture for sheep of the Cheviot and black-faced breed,—the management of which is well understood and successfully practised by the intelligent and active Lammermoor farmers.

A number of fields remain permanently in pasture, generally in the hands of proprietors. They are annually let by public roup—afford a fair return—and are convenient for breeders, dealers in stock, and butchers.

Population.—The population of this county has been more stationary than of most other counties in Scotland, which is doubtless to be ascribed to its almost exclusively agricultural character. There is a sufficient supply of labourers, and though the farmers, from the badness of the times, now employ as few hands as with propriety they can, there are seldom any unemployed. For these few years past, a considerable emigration of persons belonging to the labouring classes has annually taken place to Canada, which, were it to proceed at the same rate for any length of time, would have the effect of sensibly diminishing the population.

Table shewing the Population of the Parishes in the County of Berwick in 1755, 1794, 1801, 1811, 1821, 1831.

	In 1755, according to Dr Webster's census.	In 1794, according to the first Statistical Account.	In 1801, according to govern- ment cen- sus.	In 1811, according to ditto.	In 1821, according to ditto.	In 1831, according to ditto.
Abbey St Ba- thans, -	80	164	138	154	150	122
Ayton, -	797	1245	1453	1379	1481	1602
Bunkle, -	691	622	674	766	787	748
Channelkirk,	531	600	640	707	730	841
Chirnside,	510	961	1147	1239	1189	1248
Cockburnspath,	919	883	930	904	966	1143
Coldingham,	2313	2391	2391	2424	2676	2668
Coldstream,	1493	2521	2269	2384	2801	2897
Cranshaws,	214	164	166	186	156	136
Dunse, -	2593	3324	3157	3082	3773	3469
Earlston,	1197	1351	1478	1528	1705	1710
Eccles, -	1489	1780	1682	1820	1900	1885
Edrom,	898	1336	1355	1360	1516	1435
Eyemouth,	792	1000	899	962	1165	1181
Fogo, -	566	450	507	450	469	433
Foulden,	465	344	393	368	396	424
Gordon,	737	912	802	851	737	882
Greenlaw,	895	1210	1270	1260	1349	1442
Hutton,	751	920	955	1030	1118	1099
Ladykirk,	386	590	516	535	527	485
Langton,	290	435	428	418	477	443
Lauder,	1795	2000	1760	1742	1845	2063
Legerwood,	398	422	495	560	476	565
Longformacus,	399	452	406	444	402	425
Merton,	502	557	535	614	610	664
Mordington,	181	335	330	275	302	301
Nenthorn,	497	400	395	398	393	380
Polwarth,	251	288	291	307	298	288
Swinton,	494	898	875	866	919	971
Westruther,	591	730	779	822	870	830
Whitsome,	399	590	560	536	661	664

Roads.—From being in former times proverbially bad, the roads are now excellent, and much attention is paid to keeping them in proper repair. When toll-bars were first established, great opposition was made to this measure; and acts of violence and outrage were resorted to. The people are now convinced of their error, and justly appreciate the advantages that are derived from having easy means of communication betwixt the different districts of the county. The proprietors connected with the different trusts take great pains in superintending and managing the road affairs. The parish roads are maintained by the statute labour conversion money; and overseers, who are generally respectable farmers, are appointed in every parish for inspecting the roads, managing the funds, and seeing them properly applied. In the internal part of the county, there are several cross roads

which are little used, and which, without any loss either to individuals or the public, might with propriety be shut up. In some places of the district, the want of bridges to afford a safe passage over the rapid streams which intersect Berwickshire is severely felt, and much complained of. In that part which is situated on the lower extremity of the Whitadder, this is particularly the case. The numerous fatal accidents that have occurred to persons attempting to cross the rivers while in flood, have excited an almost universal anxiety that something should be done to prevent the occurrence of such heart-rending visitations. Several of the proprietors have shown a deep interest in providing a remedy, by the erection of bridges; and it is hoped that the time is not distant when measures will be taken to obviate this defect.

Ecclesiastical State.—Though in the course of last century several unions of parishes took place, yet few are of an inconvenient size. In several parishes the churches being situated at their extremities, are rather inconveniently placed for the parishioners. The largest parishes in point of territorial extent are those of Lauder and Coldingham, both of which comprise vast tracts of unimproved and unimprovable moor. In the latter parish, there is a Chapel of Ease at Renton, where a preacher regularly officiates. It is doubtful whether sufficient permanent funds could be obtained to justify the presbytery in ordaining a clergyman in this chapel. The most populous parishes are Dunse and Coldstream. The smallest parish in point of extent is Eyemouth, and the least populous Abbey St Bathans. There are about fourteen Dissenting meeting-houses of various denominations.*

* Part of the parish of Oldhamstocks is situated in Berwickshire, and detached at a considerable distance from the rest of the parish, which is in East Lothian. In all other matters, except *quoad sacra*, it forms a part of the former county.

Table shewing the Ecclesiastical and Educational Provisions in each Parish.

	STIPEND.			GLASSE.			Comm- nics.	Fam. at Estab. C.	Dissent.		No. of Schools	Amount of parochial schoolmas- ter's salary.			Fees.					
	Chalders. Meal and Barley.	Money, in- clud. com. elements.		Acre.	Value.				Fami- lies.	Indivi- duals.		L.	s.	d.						
	Chal.	Bolls.	L.	s.	d.		L.	s.	d.				L.	s.	d.	L.	s.	d.		
Abbey,			158	6	8	14	14	0	0	80	18	5	1	30	0	0	10	0	0	
Ayton,	16		10	0	0	11½	38	0	0	360	180	145	7	34	0	0	84	0	0	
Bunkle,	16*		8	6	8	44	40	0	0	230	92	50	1	34	0	0	30	0	0	
Channelkirk,	12	5	32	0	0	9	18	0	0	250	129	34	1	30	0	0	40	0	0	
Chirnside,	17		8	6	8	8	24	0	0	400	200	74	3	34	0	0	30	0	0	
Cranshaws,			158	6	8	15	22	10	0	90	24	0	1	34	0	0	10	0	0	
Earlston,	16		0	0	0	8	40	0	0	404	167	190	3	28	0	0	not stated			
Eccles,	16		0	0	0	21	not stated			505	not stat.		5	34	0	0	not stated.			
Gordon,	5	5	90	0	0	12	30	0	0	*	173	12	1	34	0	0	20	0	0	
Greenlaw,	15	14	31	7	6	10	30	0	0	370	204	98	2	34	0	0	45	0	0	
Hutton,	16		10	0	0	13	30	0	0	430	213		4	34	0	0	40	0	0	
Ladykirk,	6		88	2	8	11	33	0	0	170	63	45	1	25	13	3	40	0	0	
Lauder,	13	14	77	11	9	9	18	0	0	650	318	112	4	35	0	0	not stated			
Longformac.	15		8	6	8	11	32	0	0	135	65	16	1	34	0	0	10	0	0	
Merton,	16		10	0	0	14	14	0	0	240	not stat.		1	30	0	0	10	0	0	
Swinton,	16		0	0	0	21	63	0	0	440	193	25	2	34	0	0	25	0	0	
Westruther,			160	16	8	20	30	0	0	420	158		1	23	0	0	10	0	0	
Whitsome,	16	2 bolls wheat.	8	7	4	30	60	0	0	200	85	40	2	34	0	0	26	0	0	
Coldstream,†	16		8	6	8	11½	50	0	0	560	242	210	7	34	0	0	77	0	0	
Nenthorn,			150	0	0	7½	22	0	0	95	49	19	1	25	0	0	9	10	0	
Fogo,	15		8	6	8	11	30	0	0	145	58	30	1	25	13	3½	45	0	0	
Polwarth,	64 bolls oats. 80 meal, 80 barley.		5	11	1½	14	not stated			120	62		3	1	28	0	0	19	0	0
Langton,	105 b. oats and barley.		122	0	0	10	do.			220	64	32	1	25	4	4	32	0	0	
Dunse,	20		10	0	0	10	37	0	0	600	390	446	8	34	4	4	70	0	0	
Foulden,	77 bolls oats, 38 barley.		59	9	3	8	24	0	0	160	57		1	34	0	0	10	0	0	
Edrom,	16		8	6	8	10	not stated			350	235	55	3	24	0	0	10	0	0	
Coldingham,	18		10	0	0	10	27	10	0	560† 140½	not stat		8||	23	0	0				
Cockburnsp.	17		8	6	8	7½	22	10	0	285	112	87	3	30	0	0	45	0	0	
Eyemouth,	80 bolls, 54 oats 18 pease					10	30	0	0	300	250	30	7	34	0	0	25	0	0	
Mordington,			150	0	0	15	37	10	0	98	45	14	1	34	0	0	30	0	0	
Legerwood,	14		8	6	8	10	15	0	0	195	85	13	1	28	0	0	20	0	0	

Education.—The parochial and private schools in Berwickshire are well attended, and are sufficiently numerous for the population of the district. Few parents are without the means of educating their children, and the offspring of those who from poverty are unable to do so, are in most parishes instructed gratuitously, or at the expense of the heritors.

At all the schools the ordinary branches of education common in Scotland are taught, accompanied with the elements of religious

* Not stated.

† The number of families whose religious denomination is here accounted for, appears to be considerably less than the total number of families in the parish.

‡ Church, 560.

§ Chapel, 140.

|| Two of which are parochial.

knowledge. It has been observed of late years, that the number of Latin scholars has decreased much, several parishes of considerable population being destitute of these entirely. Perhaps this is not much to be regretted. Some of the parochial and other teachers have adopted Mr Wood's system of tuition with great success,—a method certainly superior to the old mechanical system, and which at an early age gives such scope and exercise for the intellectual powers. The establishment of normal schools for initiating young men in the important and arduous task of teaching, from whom parochial schoolmasters could be selected, would, it is generally believed, be attended with salutary effects, and tend much to improve and increase the efficiency of the present system. The schools are annually examined by committees of the respective presbyteries within whose limits they are situated, and the reports transmitted to the General Assembly. In all the schools the Scriptures are daily read.

Sunday schools prevail in most parishes, and it cannot be doubted that their effect is beneficial, when they are conducted by teachers of good character, and sound religious principle. It is thought, however, by some, that they have a tendency to make parents careless about the religious instruction of their children,—an effect which would be much to be deplored, as certainly this kind of knowledge cannot be imparted with such interest and efficiency from any lips as from those of a parent. On the other hand, when parents are negligent with regard to the spiritual improvement of their families, as is sometimes the case, Sunday schools supply this deficiency, and are highly useful and salutary.

Poor.—Table shewing the Number of Paupers, and the amount of Assessments for Poor Rates in each Parish.

	No. of paupers.	Annual as- sessment.		No. of paupers.	Annual as- sessment.
Abbey St Bathans,	2	L. 4 18 0	Gordon, -	25	L. 142 0 0
Aytoun, -	55	400 0 0	Greenlaw, -	28	222 0 0
Bunkle, -	19	70 0 0	Hutton, -	34	180 0 0
Channelkirk, -	16	50 0 0	Ladykirk, -	18	100 0 0
Chirnside, -	55	270 0 0	Langton, -	5	29 0 0
Cockburnspath,	30	120 0 0	Lauder, -	22	150 0 0
Coldingham, -	140	600 0 0	Legerwood, -	12	50 0 0
Coldstream, -	109	700 0 0	Longformacus,	2	
Cranshaws, -	3	12 0 0	Merton, -	8	40 0 0
Dunse, -	130	710 0 0	Mordington, -	18	100 0 0
Earlston, -	34	163 0 0	Nenthorn, -	7	20 0 0
Eccles, -	50	270 0 0	Polwarth, -	9	50 0 0
Edrom, -	30	150 0 0	Swinton, -	38	227 0 0
Eyemouth, -	35	199 0 0	Westruther, -	24	91 0 0
Fogo, -	10	54 0 0	Whitsome, -	18	115 0 0
Foulden, -	12	58 16 0			

The poor are supported in this county almost universally by compulsory assessments, the one-half of which is paid by the proprietor, and the other by the tenant, according to the valued rent.

The collections made at church on the Lord's day are a fund quite inadequate for this purpose, and poor rates having been long established, these collections have in most cases dwindled into an insignificant sum; and in the smaller parishes are insufficient for defraying those expenses which from time immemorial have been paid from this source. It cannot be denied that a heavy burden is thus imposed on landed property, and that the usual bad effects are produced on the character and habits of the poor themselves, which flow from this mode of maintaining them. The report of almost every parish testifies that they have no hesitation of applying to be placed on the poor's roll,—that they claim it as a right to which they are legally entitled, and of which they do not consider it disgraceful to take advantage,—and that the lofty feeling of independence, and the praiseworthy delicacy which used formerly to be the characteristics of the Scottish peasantry, and which shrunk from the idea of receiving parochial aid, have now in a great measure disappeared. One thing which has made this change more visible here than in other parts of the country is the proximity of this county to England, where it is well known that the poor are supported at a profuse and extravagant expense. Accordingly, the border counties are assessed at a higher rate than any other district. At the same time, it would be difficult to devise any more equitable or efficient method for the support of the poor, and which would fall so equally on proprietors, whether resident or not. And, as long as none but the aged and infirm are admitted on the roll, and the assessments are imposed by the proprietors themselves, or their factors, who have an interest in keeping them as low as possible, there appears to be no great danger of the poor rates ever arriving at such a formidable height as in England. Notwithstanding the disadvantages under which Berwickshire labours from its vicinity to England, and from the poor being infected with the extravagant notions of their southern neighbours on this subject, the average assessment for their support does not, it is thought, much exceed sixpence in the pound Sterling of rent, which is paid jointly in equal proportions by the proprietor and occupier,—a sum of a moderate amount when compared to what is paid in some of the adjoining parishes of Northumberland and North Durham, where it is not uncom-

mon for the rates to reach so high as 3s. or 4s. in every pound Sterling of rent. It ought also to be mentioned, that the cases of pauper lunatics, supported at asylums by their respective parishes, contribute greatly to augment the assessments, as, even in the most economical style, this cannot be done but at a considerable expense. It may also be stated, as a fact of some importance, that there is scarcely an instance known of a pauper of this county wandering about as a mendicant soliciting charity; though the district is inundated with vagrants of this description, who come from those parts of Scotland which pride themselves in having no compulsory provision for the maintenance of the poor. Considerable sums are frequently expended, certainly not always very judiciously, by parishes on litigations in pauper cases. The encouragement of friendly societies—a rigid examination into the merits of every application for being admitted to the poors' roll—a determined resistance to the principle of able-bodied persons receiving parish aid—and the continuance of that moderate and spare pecuniary allowance common in Scotland, seem the best methods for keeping the poor rates low, and for preventing those pernicious effects which they have produced in England. It is to be hoped that the change lately introduced into the administration of the English poor laws may check their baneful and deleterious influence, retard the growing evil, and prevent the lower orders of this, and the other border counties from being assimilated in this respect to the peasantry of the south.

Character and Habits of the People.—The general character of the population, as described in the parochial reports, differs in few respects from that of the inhabitants of the other agricultural districts of Scotland. Like other gentlemen of the same rank in Scotland, the landed proprietors are distinguished for their attachment to the civil and religious institutions of the country, for their zeal to promote the interests of agriculture and to advance local improvements, for their attention to their tenantry, for their willing co-operation in extending the benefits of education and religion, and for their benevolence, to the poor. Those of them who reside constantly upon their estates enjoy the respect and esteem of those among whom they live; and several of them, by carrying on extensive improvements on their properties, take the best method of obtaining the favour of the lower classes, and at the same time of promoting their interests, by giving them employment.

The tenantry of the county are a highly respectable body of men,

intelligent, active, and enterprising; many of them persons of liberal education, well acquainted with all the most improved processes of agriculture, and generally respected and beloved by their servants and dependents. Though the times are not favourable to them, yet most of them are cheerful and happy, and look forward under the divine blessing to more prosperous days. They commonly live on terms of intimate and friendly intercourse with their neighbours, possess sound religious and moral principles, attend regularly on divine ordinances, and are seldom deficient in their attention to the comforts and wants of their inferiors.

Assailed by few temptations, and little subject to those debasing influences which produce such fearful effects, both moral and physical, on an urbane population, the labouring classes are distinguished for honesty, industry, and contentment. Education and the ordinances of religion are within the reach of all, and are seldom neglected. Indeed, moral and religious habits are so blended and entwined with all their feelings and associations, that they seem in little danger of ever lapsing in any considerable degree from the characteristics which have been so long distinctive of our Scottish peasantry. To every sincere lover of his country it would be matter of deep regret, if any causes should produce a change to the worse in this valuable and interesting class of the community. Were there fewer public-houses, were toll-keepers prevented from selling ardent spirits, and were some measures adopted by Government for abolishing the temptation of smuggling whisky into England, all of which circumstances, as they now exist, tend to the demoralization of the lower orders, salutary and beneficial effects would follow.

Owing to the contiguity of the sister kingdom, this county in the "olden times" must have been the theatre of many a lawless foray and hard fought encounter between the rival borderers. Every trace or memorial of such ages has now, however, disappeared from this part of the country; and even those traditions which in most parts of Scotland are so fondly cherished by the peasantry, and handed down from generation to generation with all but religious care, have vanished without leaving a trace behind. The phenomenon is remarkable, and cannot easily be accounted for. The early period at which systematic agriculture commenced in this district, and the complete change in the habits of the people that in consequence ensued, is the only circumstance that seems adequately to account for the fact. In the labours of active industry and the exer-

tions of the present day, they seem entirely to have lost sight of, or to have forgotten, the sayings and doings of the "*temporis acti.*"

Table shewing the number of Commitments, &c. for Crime in the County of Berwick during the year 1834.

Crimes.	Persons remaining untried from preceding year.	Persons committed for trial.		Persons convicted.		Persons acquitted.		Persons tried.		Sentences of those convicted.
		M	F	M	F	M	F	No.	Before what court.	
Robbery and assault,	3	1		3				3	Justiciary.	1 sent. death, 2 transportation for life.
Theft,	...	5		3				3	By jury, without jury, and by justices or other court.	Imprisonment for 3 months or less.
Theft by housebreaking,	...	2		1		1		2	Justiciary.	Transportation 14 years.
Assault,	...	15		14				14	6 by jury, 3 without jury, 5 by justices or other court.	Imprisonment for 3 months or less.
Breaking windows,	...	1		1				1	Without jury.	Do.
Rioting,	...	1		1				1	Do.	Do.
Vagrancy and breaking windows,	...	2		2				2	Do.	Do.
Vagrancy,	...	2		2				2	Justices.	Do.
Contravening Act 9 Geo. IV. sect. 69.	...	2		2				1	Without jury.	Do.
Trespassing in search of game,	...	1		1				1	Do.	Do.
Contempt of Court.	...	1		1				1	Do.	Do.

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